THE

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WHY WE OBJECT TO THE ASHBOURNE ACT.

We are rather dissatisfied with the way in which the discussion is going in Parliament. Our leaders, trammelled by their previous declarations, have offered to the Government an opposition which is only half-hearted. When Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Morley proclaim that they have no objection to grant another million or two to carry on the operations of the Ashbourne Act, and that they are all in favour of using the State credit in order to set up Irish peasant farmers in business as landlords on their own account, they give away our whole case. As the question seems to be very imperfectly understood, it may be worth while to set forth with some little precision why we object *in toto* to the Government proposal, and protest equally against Mr. Balfour's scheme and the alternative which is evidently favoured by our own leaders.

Our first objection, which goes to the root of the whole matter, is that we condemn on principle the doctrine that the credit of the whole community may be pledged in order to supply capital by which a few scores, or hundreds, or thousands of private persons can set up in business on their own account. If the credit of the whole community may be legitimately pledged to effect a change in land tenure in Ireland, where that land tenure is producing social disorder, then the State should as far as possible secure that the benefits of that change shall be shared by all the members of the community instead of being confined exclusively to those who happen to be at any given moment in occupation of agricultural holdings. In other words, the State credit, if employed to expropriate any Irish landlords whose relations with their tenants have made social order impossible, should be used to transfer the fee simple to the general community, instead of hatching out a crop of new landowners, who would rapidly become as bad as the old ones.

2. We object absolutely to the doctrine that Irish landlordism is so utterly bad that nothing remains to be done but to get rid of it root and branch. That is what the Ashbourne Act means if it means anything. The Ashbourne Act places a ridiculously high premium or bonus upon the extirpation of the landlord. It offers every Irish tenant an immediate reduction of 30 per cent. on his rent and a present of his farm for nothing at the end of forty-nine years, provided that he consents to get rid of his landlord. Whatever the Government may think, we do not admit for a moment that the Irish landlord is so noxious an animal that such a premium as this should be paid for his extirpation. Many of the Irish landlords are among the best elements in Ireland, men whose aid and co-operation will be indispensable if Home Rule is to be a success. All that the State can do in the direction of dispossessing landlords is to declare that, where they are at hopeless loggerheads with their tenants, it will consent to buy them out. But the inducement which alone should be offered to the tenants is the termination of a state of social war, and the security of a tenure not subject to the caprices of a landlord. If those are not sufficient, they can stay as they are. It is no part of our business to give a heavy money bribe to tenants to induce them to become landowners.

3. The essential point in providing for the future of the agrarian classes in Ireland is to secure that when the bad landlord disappears, there shall be established in his place some authority with a revenue available for purposes of direction and education. We want, in short, to replace the absentee personal landlord, who spends his rents upon himself, by a local co-operative landlord, who will have as revenue to spend in behalf of the locality the difference between the rent-charge paid by the tenant in perpetuity and the terminable instalments of interest and repayment which the local authority will pay to the State. At the end of forty-nine years the whole rental will be available for purposes of local public good. By substituting for the Ashbourne Act a measure which converts fair rents on any estate that cannot get on with its landlord into a permanent local land tax payable to the local authority, we should at once remove the premium now placed on the extirpation of good landlords, and provide for establishing in the place of bad landlords a democratic co-operative representative body with a fund ready to hand for discharging the duties of intelligent landlordism.

It may be said that any arrangement which does not reduce rents in Ireland is foredoomed to failure. We do not deny that this may be so. But we protest emphatically against the doctrine that the right way to reduce rents that are unjustly high is for the State to buy out the landlords, taking these unjust rents as the basis for calculating the price. To reduce rent in that way is simply to compel the taxpayer to subsidize the landlord. It amounts to saying that we are to buy what the landlord ought not to collect in order that we may by the use of the State credit be able to reduce the tenants' payments to the level of a fair rent. If we are to buy out the landlords, let us do so on the basis of a fair and not of an unfair rent. And if the rent is fair there is no reason why the tenant should not go on paying it for ever to a body that would receive and spend it in the interest of the whole community

ROTHAMSTEAD AND ITS WORK.

An Interview with Sir John Bennet Lawes, Bart.

The discovery and development of agricultural science is indissolubly associated with the experiments which have been made at Rothamstead for just one year short of half a century. And whoever seeks to learn of the marvellous workings of plant-life in all its forms looks for inspiration and guidance to the world-famous laboratory at this little Hertfordshire town. There have been conducted a series of investigations which have revolutionized agriculture, and the work wrought by Dr., now Sir John, Lawes and his forty-five years' coadjutor, Dr. J. H. Gilbert, is incalculable. The record of these investigations, as seen in the voluminous reports and articles which have appeared in many publications, not only in the agricultural press, but the Journals of the Royal Society, the British Association, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Chemical Society, and in the 40,000 bottles of samples which now crowd the laboratory in every part, and for which a new building is being erected, testify to the work which has been done. We were glad, therefore, the other day to send a representative to visit Rothamstead, where he was received by the institutor of the experiments, who spent the day in showing him around and telling something of what has been done. Dr. Gilbert was not seen, as he is just now away in Sweden. The house at Rothamstead is a fine battlemented mansion in the Tudor style. John Bennet Lawes succeeded to it in 1821, when only eight years of age, and he has held the estate for sixty-seven years. No one would think that the active little man who so often expressed the fear lest he was taking us too far had seen seventy-five years. Yet it is so, and the combination of scientific research and country life seems to tend to length of days. Perhaps the eagerness with which he has also followed the "gentle craft" may have further helped in the same direction. Educated at Eton and Oxford, he very early showed a tendency towards chemistry, and when twenty years of age considerably alarmed his mother and the other members of the household by ordering from a London firm a complete laboratory, which was fitted up in one of the best bedrooms at Rothamstead. But other work was in store, and what appeared to be a slight circumstance turned his thoughts towards agricultural investigations, to the undoubted benefit of mankind. There may be those who regret that so great an intellect was turned from

Sir J. B. Lawes.

medical science, but there can be no question of the advantage derived by agriculture from this switching off on to another track. The circumstance referred to was a remark made by his neighbour the then Lord Dacre to the effect that bones used as manure produced excellent results on one farm, while on another they were comparatively useless. This laid the train, and in consequence of a desire to discover how such a thing could be investigations were made and experiments tried, leading to important discoveries as to the application of artificial fertilizers. In 1842 Mr. Lawes obtained a patent for the fertilizer known as superphosphate of lime, and established the year following the great chemical works which yet bear his name, but with which he has had no connection for sixteen years. The success of this manufacture has enabled the Rothamstead experiments to be conducted entirely at the expense of Sir John Lawes. To the patient research, careful investigation, and great skill of Dr. Gilbert, much is due, and both of the two men at the head of the laboratory acknowledge the work wrought by each other.

"What I feel most," remarked Sir John to our representative on the occasion of a recent visit, "is how little can be done in one lifetime. It takes so long to test our theories, and we know so little of the influences of soil and atmosphere, that we make many false steps. A man who enters into this work should have several lives, for in actual experiments with soils, unless the same land can be employed, every one must go over exactly the same ground we have."

"But I believe you have provided for a continuance of the work? Is it not true that you have devoted a large sum of money so that the Rothamstead station may continue?"

"Yes; I am giving the laboratory and the land upon which the experiments have been made, with right of way thereto, with £100,000 as endowment. And in order that this sum of money may be preserved intact I am making a deed of gift, so that there shall not be a deduction of 10 per cent. legacy duty, as would be the case if it passed after my death. I expect all will be transferred to trustees appointed by the Royal and two other societies in a very short time. In this way I hope that the work will be continued after both Dr. Gilbert and myself have done with it, so that all the history we have made by our experiments may not be lost."

"There," continued Sir John Lawes, as he pointed to a number of young bulls, for we were making our way to the grass experiment field, "are some stock my bailiff has just bought, and that leads me to one point which I cannot get farmers in this country to adopt. I mean the buying and selling of stock by weight. The present system may be all right for the butcher, but the farmer loses heavily. He never knows how much, and therefore is indifferent. If the butcher buys an animal too dear, he finds out his mistake ere the week is out, and takes care to be on the safe side next time. I have shown how the real value of any animal can be told with the minimum of trouble; but it is of no use, and our English farmer prefers to go in his old ruts, because his father and grandfather have taken the same way before him. Americans are splendid pupils, readily adopting new ways; but here the reverse is the case."

"Do you find much support in America?"

"Yes, the best. Americans come here in large numbers. But I never take any pupils. Experimenting and tuition cannot run together successfully, and though we have often been urged to teach I have set my face against it. Our work is in one direction; others must take up that of tuition."

The grass or meadow land experimental field is within the park, and is divided into twenty plots, with a total of about seven acres. It was explained that the land has probably been laid down with grass for some centuries. No fresh seed has been artificially sown within the last fifty years, certainly, and there is no record of any having been sown since the grass was first laid down.

"Here the experiments commenced in 1856," explained Sir John, "at which time the herbage was uniform in character. Each plot has been treated differently. One has had no manure at all; others have had farmyard dung, superphosphate of lime, ammonia salts, sulphate potass, or other chemicals, and now the result of each is seen."

The result was evident in many ways. On one plot the fertilizers supplied had fed only a single kind of grass, which had covered the whole area, killing out all the rest. On another the grass was hard and wiry, scarcely fit for food, and on yet another the land was little better than a bog. We cannot go into technical details as to the results, but these experiments have shown that the food which plants receive, either artificially from the soil, or by the atmosphere, determines their nature as much as in the case of animals. The same thing is seen in the wheat and barley fields. One of the most important of the former is the section upon which this grain has been grown continuously for forty-five years, in one case without manure. The average of the first recorded eighteen years gave 14¾ bushels per acre, and last year the same quantity was produced, showing that in the soil there is a large reserve amount of fertility.

"Of course you will know," it was explained, "that this is a low average, for in the same field with some forms of manure we have had nearly thirty-five bushels per acre. Still, this low average is greater than that of America or India, and equal to that of all the world. So that our English soil can produce wheat as well as any other, even if unmanured."

"Then our allowing wheat to be grown by others for us is not because the soil is exhausted?"

"Not at all. It is merely a question of price. Wheat can be grown as well as ever, but not profitably under present rates."

"In case of war would it be possible to grow all the corn we need?"

"Yes, if the first year could be got over. All would depend upon that. Given the supply of seed, and we could grow all the corn needed in this country. But the feeding for that first year would determine the whole matter, and I do not see how it could be done, unless we can defend our commerce."

"Here," he continued, "I wish to show you a most important experiment. Five years ago we left the upper end of this wheatfield uncropped, allowing the corn to fall when ripe. In three years there was scarcely a single ear of corn left: those which I could find were short in the stalk, and with perhaps a single grain. Now there is not one. This shows that food products are almost entirely artificial, and that in a few years the land would be a perfect wilderness if uncultivated. But I myself was surprised at the rapidity with which the wheat disappeared."

"How do you explain this?"

"The weeds were stronger, and killed out the artificial grain. Weeds are hardy, and it is really 'the survival of the fittest,' or the hardiest. The same thing I can show you in the turnip field, where the unmanured plot is almost barren, the plants having scarcely in any case formed a bulb. It is the starch we want as food. Cultivation and fertilization give that starch."

"How have you found the crops this year, Sir John?"

"Grass and roots very heavy indeed, but grain bad. Not so serious as 1879, but still below the average. Here, for instance," picking up a bundle of wheat, "I always test by holding the straw midway. If the ears weigh it down I know all is right. If not, as is the case now, it is poor. I do not know yet how much the yield will go below the average, but it is seriously so."

"Then I suppose all round farmers will not suffer greatly—that is, taking one crop with the other?"

"Stock farmers will be better off, for beef is rising, and they have abundance of food, but wheat farmers must suffer."

"I believe you have written against the system of silage. Is that so?"

"Yes. I do not believe in making silage for its own sake. In a bad year like the present, when hay could scarcely be made, the system may be employed, but not when the crops can be gathered in a good condition. The process destroys the finest qualities of the food, and cannot make poor stuff into good food. I would rather have a stack of hay than of silage, and except as an occasional thing during a bad season I do not believe in it."

It would be impossible to give in detail an account of the multifarious operations in operation at Rothamstead, where every branch of plant growth is inquired into, the influence of the rain upon the soil, how much of the manurial value it carries away, and scores of other problems, which have only been met by probing into the secrets of nature. But, Sir John Lawes stated: "We feel that we have only touched the fringe of this great question. Every step we take reveals to us our own ignorance, and how that we are simply groping in darkness. There is a great multitude of difficulties to solve yet, which we can never inquire into." How patient has been the work is seen in the laboratory, where a staff of some half a score is permanently employed analysing, tabulating, and studying. Every step taken is recorded, and the history of every inquiry can be traced. As already stated, the laboratory, which in 1855 was built by public subscription, and presented to Dr. Lawes as a tribute to the work he had already accomplished, is too strait, and a storehouse for the samples is being erected.

There is yet another matter which must be mentioned in connection with Rothamstead. Thirty years ago the late Charles Dickens described in *Household Words* the allotments and private public-house on the estate. Now there are upwards of four hundred of these allotments, and the quality of the cultivation is remarkable. For these small tenants a private public-house was established, and there it stands to-day. The public are not served at it. There is no temptation to drink; no drunkenness. Comfortable, yet plain, it is the truest form of a poor man's club. Sir John Lawes takes a deep interest in it, but does not interfere in any way with its management. This work is assumed by a committee of the men themselves, who maintain most rigidly the high character of the place.

THE PLUMBERS AND THE PUBLIC.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CLERK OF THE PLUMBERS' COMPANY.

THE noticeable fall in the temperature during the last few days gives token of the rapid approach of winter, with its frosts and snows, causing pipes inside the unfortunate householder's domicile, and gutters without, to become more or less disorganized, with resulting discomforts, if not positive unhealthiness, whose malign sway is but too well-known to most Britishers. The plumber, fearsome being as the average specimen is, with his "botching" and general incompetence, whose bills and whose delays are about equally long, will soon be abroad in the land, and it was therefore with considerable interest that a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* a few days ago received a visit from Mr. William R. E. Coles, the clerk of the Plumbers' Company, one of the oldest City guilds, which, under Mr. Coles's fostering care, has, as will be seen, earned for itself a new lease of life, and at the same time brought about a very large amount of necessary reform in connection with the handicraft of plumbing:—

"I hear, Mr. Coles," said our representative, "that you have glad tidings for the long-suffering, plumber-ridden householder, but I do not know exactly what it is that you bring forward as a remedy for a very ancient grievance. Please give me a few particulars."—"With great pleasure," was the answer. "We aim at eradicating the grievance you speak of, and hope to repeat on the most extensive scale in the future what we have already accomplished very widely in the past—that is, the bringing about of more cordial relations between the public and plumbers in the persons of our registered craftsmen."

"And pray how do you propose to do this?"—"Our leading idea is to form a national register of all competent plumbers, so that if any one will take the trouble to consult our list he may make sure of obtaining the services of a thoroughly practical and business-like workman only."

"An excellent idea; and now let me have the details of your scheme. What was your first step?"—"In consequence of the generally unsatisfactory

state of the trade, the idea first took shape something like four years ago, and at the Healtheries, in 1884, a congress of representative men was held, which sat for two days, and sifted the matter in the most thorough way possible. A system of national registration was finally resolved upon, but through one thing and another, such as arranging details about examination and so forth, it was not until March, 1886, that we got fairly started."

"How many members did you start with?"—"In the first six months we enrolled perhaps a couple of hundred men, and the number has been growing ever since, until our muster is now 3,000, who are distributed all over England and Scotland, and who embrace the pick of the craft."

"And do you touch Ireland?"—"Not at present; we are just making a beginning over there, although we have a few Irish plumbers registered, but we hope to get on as well there as we have done in England and Scotland, and, in course of time, when everything is ripe for it, and when the system has further developed as a voluntary one, we shall apply for legislative powers."

"So that you look forward to putting plumbers in the same position as qualified medical practitioners and chemists?"—"Precisely; no one is admitted to our ranks who cannot, either by written testimony or actual examination, satisfy our board that he is an experienced man quite capable of carrying on the calling of a plumber."

"What is the process of registration?"—"To get himself registered, a plumber applies to the secretary of his district, or to one of the master or operative plumbers on the council, who gives him a form to fill up; this form is sent in to the secretary, who lays it before a committee. After passing them, the application comes before the whole council, in every case. In certain circumstances examination is dispensed with; but, if necessary, an examination by selected examiners takes place. After applications have been admitted by the district council they are forwarded to the general council in London, who authorize the issue of diplomas."

"What does the examination consist of?"—"A candidate must undertake about three hours of practical work under the supervision of the examiners, and afterwards has to devote about two hours to the examination papers; we issue diplomas from time to time, and applicants have to attend personally, as they have to sign a form of declaration and agreement which provides for the forfeiture of the diploma if any act is done by its holder which the council may think contrary to the integrity of the trade or injurious to the public. All information given by applicants for enrolment is considered confidential, and after registration the plumber is subject to the rules of his local council."

"And what are the fees for this?"—"To cover the expenditure of advertising and clerical work, &c., in connection with the register and the examinations, and without the idea of making any profit, a master plumber, on admission, pays £2 2*s.*, with an annual payment of half a guinea, and a journeyman 10*s.* 6*d.*, with a yearly subscription of 2*s.* 6*d.* No other payments are necessary for membership."

"How were the fees fixed?"—"They were fixed by the trade."

"What about the finance generally?"—"That is looked after by one of the oldest of the City guilds, the Worshipful Company of Plumbers, which was instituted in the reign of Edward III., in 1365, and I may say at once that unless this guild, with a certain amount of money at its back—its income is some £800 per annum—had taken up the question, we should have been able to do but very little towards attaining the object we have in view. Another point in our favour is that several of the officers of the company are so interested in the scheme that they give their services gratuitously. The company itself has spent at least £4,000, and only £1,600 has come back to it from fees. I may mention that the outlay, as you can see by the figures I have just given you, considerably exceeds the revenue, and the honorary work I have already mentioned is a great help to the council. Three clerks are regularly employed at the offices, 1, Adelaide-buildings, London Bridge, and a good many more occasionally, at examinations. Six district councils for Scotland have already been formed, and there, as elsewhere, to quote Professor Ewing, at Dundee, the system aims primarily at reform from within. The thing is not a trade interest, with narrow views and aspirations, but a movement of really national importance, and one calculated to do an immense amount of good. We have the advice of architects, individually and collectively, and of others who have adequate knowledge of the difficulties that are known to exist."

"What English districts have you taken up outside of London?"—"Sussex, Manchester, Liverpool, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the North Riding of Yorkshire."

"Then you are perfectly pleased with your operations so far?"—"Quite. We are improving the technical training of those engaged in the trade, and have a system of medals and prizes in connection with the examinations, as well as power to confer the freedom of the company in unusually meritorious cases. We hope to provide for the existence of an efficient staff of qualified plumbers for the benefit of the next generation, and are making every effort towards that end. Altogether we have done well, but we hope to do better. I should particularly mention that one of our cardinal principles is the working in harmony of the plumbers and gentlemen representing the public, such as the mayors or provosts of towns, the chairmen of school boards, and others who are practically acquainted with all the details of sanitation; and our lists of public representatives embrace many highly influential names."

"Do you think your organization is very well known, Mr. Coles?"—"Decidedly; we have applications for information from all parts daily—for instance, we are often asked what plumbers are registered in particular districts, such as Hampstead or Bayswater."

"Defective household sanitary arrangements, of various kinds, have to answer for many closely-written pages of doctors' bills," remarked our representative; "and your society, I should say, will ward off many a fever and sore throat, not to speak of more serious maladies."—"I hope so," said Mr. Coles, with a confident smile, as he took up his hat to depart.

"THE SISTER TO SCIENCE."

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK ON THE MISSION OF ART.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK'S address in distributing the prizes at the Leeds Schools of Science and Art last evening was noteworthy for some eloquent passages in praise of art. These passages we are enabled to produce in full:—

Science and Art are sisters, or rather, perhaps, they are like brother and sister. The mission of art is in some respects like that of woman. It is not theirs so much to do the hard toil and moil of the world as to surround it with a halo of beauty, to convert work into pleasure. In science we naturally expect progress, but in art the case is not so clear, and yet Sir Joshua Reynolds did not hesitate to express his conviction that "so much will painting improve that the best we can now achieve will appear like the work of children."

THE MODERN LOVE OF LANDSCAPE.

The appreciation of nature which characterizes the present century, the intense love of scenery to which we owe so much, which not only adds so much to the happiness, but even, I venture to think, to the purity, of life, we owe in no small degree to art. May we not hope in this respect also still further progress may be made? that beauties may be revealed, and pleasures may be in store for those who come after us, which we cannot appreciate, or at least can but faintly feel? And yet even in art the appreciation of landscape is but recent. It is remarkable that while artists have long recognized the necessity of studying anatomy, and there has been from the commencement a professor of anatomy in the Royal Academy, it is only of late years that any knowledge of botany or geology has been considered desirable, and even now their importance is by no means generally recognized. I have, of course, no pretension to speak on art, but even in the case of the greatest masters before Turner the landscapes seem singularly inferior to the figures. Sir Joshua Reynolds tells us that Gainsborough framed a kind of model of a landscape on his table, composed of broken stones, dried herbs, and pieces of looking-glass, which he magnified and improved into rocks, trees, and water, and Sir Joshua solemnly discusses the wisdom of such a proceeding. "How far it may be useful in giving hints," he says, "the professors of landscape can best determine," but he does not recommend it, and is disposed to think on the whole the practice may be more likely to do harm than good. In the picture of Ceyx and Alcyone by Wilson, of whom Cunningham said that with Gainsborough he laid the foundation of our school of landscape, the castle is said to have been painted from a pot of porter and the rock from a Stilton cheese. There is indeed another version of the story, that the picture was sold for a pot of porter and a cheese, which, however, does not give a higher idea of the appreciation of the art of landscape at that date.

COLOUR-BLINDNESS IN LITERATURE.

This want of appreciation of the beauty of scenery is also apparent in literature. Ancient literature contains few references to scenery. Mountains are referred to only as objects of horror, and there are so few mentions of colour—either, for instance, of sea or sky—that some have even been led to imagine that the ancients must have been colour-blind, or, at any rate, incapable of seeing certain colours as we do now. Our minds might have been constituted exactly as they are; we might have been capable of comprehending the highest and sublimest truths, and yet but for a small organ in the head and the world of sound would have been shut out from us; we should lose the sounds of nature, the charms of music, the conversation of friends, and been condemned to perpetual silence: and yet a slight alteration in the retina, no thicker than a sheet of paper, no larger than a finger nail, and we should lose the glorious spectacle of this beautiful world, the exquisite variety of form, the play of colour, the variety of scenery, of woods and fields and lakes and hills, seas and mountains, the glory of the sky alike by day and night.

ART IN THE SERVICE OF MAN.

Art has the power of bringing together the most beautiful scenes from distances, both of time and space. They not only endow us with wings which may transport us, without effort, suffering, or loss of time on our part, from our own country to the most distant regions of the globe, and bring before us, one after the other, London, Rome, Athens, Constantinople, Cairo, Benares, Pekin, or Yokohama, the ocean in all its varied moods, the fields and woods and rivers of England, the lakes and mountains and glaciers of Switzerland, the prairies of America, the deserts of Africa and Arabia, the snows of winter and the sunshine of summer, but they can transport back through centuries in a moment, and bring vividly before us, the greatest personages and most interesting scenes and events in history. "The highest service," however, as Mr. Haweis has well said, "that art can accomplish for man is to become at once the voice of his nobler aspirations, and the steady disciplinarian of his emotions." Bacon, in "The Advancement of Learning," points out that "the world is inferior to the soul, by reason whereof there is agreeable to the spirit of man a more ample greatness, a more exact goodness, and a more absolute variety than can be found in the nature of things."

"MODERN STREET BALLADS."

"I apprehend," writes "Cantab," "that your reviewer is well-advised in stating that 'Giles Scroggin's Ghost' is not so well known as most of the other songs included in Mr. Ashton's recently published collection, yet it must have had considerable vitality about it; for I perfectly well remember hearing it sung by my grandfather—born in 1780—and by my old college friend, the present Lord O'Neill, born about 1840. Oddly enough, too, it was in the same year, 1860, that I heard the song from the lips of the old gentleman of eighty and the young gentleman of twenty. For the rest, I never heard any one else either 'sing' or 'say' it, nor, except in your paper, have I ever seen a line of it in print."

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We are delighted to see that Sir James Hannen yesterday showed a determination to do what he could to realize his own aspiration for the shortening of proceedings at the Commission. An attempt made by Sir Henry James to put in a copy of the *Kerry Weekly Reporter* was defeated. Sir James Hannen, in declaring that the proposed evidence was not admissible, said he coincided entirely with the form of Sir Charles Russell's objection. What Sir Charles Russell said was this :—

It seems to be forgotten that this is an inquiry into certain charges and allegations against certain persons. What is now proposed to be done? It is not proposed to prove the fact that any resolution or notification such as appeared in this paper was in fact, arrived at by any of the persons against whom the charges and allegations are made, or by any persons in complicity with them. What is sought to be proved is that this paper, which my learned friend will admit cannot be shown to have any connection with any of the persons incriminated, is to be taken as evidence in a case where the matters to be inquired into are not as to the general state of the country, nor the feeling, nor the crime of the country, but what are supposed to be specific allegations against certain incriminated persons. Those are the grounds why I say this is clearly not admissible.

The nature of the inquiry "seems to be forgotten" indeed, and we are heartily glad that the court has at length roused itself to check what was becoming a monstrous abuse. What we have now a right to expect is that the President will in future rigorously enforce the rule, with which, as laid down by Sir Charles Russell, he has declared his entire concurrence.

The Queen has written a letter and sent her kind inquiries to Lady Mountmorres, who fainted in the witness-box at the Parnell Commission. This was good of her Majesty, and indicates once more how kind-hearted is the first lady in the land. But the precedent is important. All women who faint in the witness-box in any of her Majesty's courts will now expect a letter from the Queen of compassionate sympathy. As no one can pretend that her Majesty's sympathies are limited to aristocratic sufferers, we fear that the Queen has voluntarily made a heavy addition to her burdens. A letter of Royal condolence will be expected henceforth by every woman who faints under cross-examination, as punctually as the Royal bounty is expected by those unhappy mothers who have presented their husbands with triplets.

The Tzar has taken another step which indicates how resolutely he abides by his determination not to interfere in the affairs of Bulgaria. Some three-score of Bulgarian officers who were admitted to the Russian army, as if they were Russians, in consideration of their fidelity to the Russian party in Bulgaria, have now been told that they must either naturalize themselves as Russians or return to the Principality. For the present, at any rate, Russia washes her hands absolutely of the Bulgarians and their affairs. Curiously enough, this decision coincides with the announcement that MM. Karaveloff and Zankoff have united in urging the Bulgarians to begin operations in Macedonia. There may be more connection between these two events than appears on the surface.

As a method of exploiting the inconvenience of German unfriendliness nothing can be better than the Russian expedient of floating a loan in Paris. M. de Blowitz says that the French investors will cover the loan several times over with the idea that they are spiting Germany. As Russia has made it up with Germany since this idea gained possession of the French mind, she gains every way. The trick is an old one. M. de Lesseps would never have got his money for the Suez Canal had it not been for the idea that the subscriptions were so many demonstrations against England. The demonstrations did us no harm, neither will the French subscription to the Russian loan harm the Germans.

The case brought yesterday by an orchid-grower against the Duchess of Montrose is likely to be of more interest to the historian of the future than many of the pretentious political discussions of the day. Note first the influence of Royalty on running up the rage for luxury. The Prince was going to dine with the Duchess; therefore she orders the construction of a costly conservatory, filled with orchids worth far more than their weight in gold. Then notice the delightful touch of purse-proud absurdity in the disgust of the Duchess at the orchids supplied being mostly white. They were ordered to bloom in July—when (so the plaintiff alleged) only white ones can be relied upon; but the Duchess clearly thought that her guineas ought to be able to purchase new laws of nature, as easily as new conservatories. And then, finally, how instructive is the scale of luxury shown by the case! The Duchess's thousand orchids were to cost a thousand guineas, and the price (said Mr. Reid, in opening the case) was "most reasonable, for such was the luxury of the present age that so much as £100 was paid for a single orchid." The white orchids of Victorian England will one day be as famous in history as the red mullets of Imperial Rome.

Mr. Matthews still seems to be baffled by the difficulty of filling up the Chief Commissionership, and no wonder. Sir Charles Warren's experience is not calculated to lead any person of high character and independence to accept a position in which he is liable to be snubbed and sat upon by Mr. Matthews. The story goes to-day that if Mr. Monro is not to have the appointment it will be given to a total outsider. We are sorry to hear it. A provincial chief constable, who has been trained to regard himself as the servant of the municipality rather than its master, would much better fit the post than either distinguished outsiders or Anglo-Indians who have had no experience in municipal administration.

Mr. Russell Lowell said last night at Liverpool that "it was not for him to say a word about Imperial Federation. He was not sure it would be a good thing, or that, if it were a good thing, it was not a dream." For his part he looked forward to the time when a good understanding among all the English-speaking peoples would have great weight in deciding the destinies of mankind, which most people will be inclined to regard as being quite as much of a dream as that of Imperial Federation. But the phrase recalls a letter which Mr. Lowell sent us nearly five years ago, in which, referring to an article in the *Pall Mall Gazette* on this very subject, he said:—"It is a beautiful dream, but it is none the worse on that account. Most of the best things in this world began by being dreams."

Of several amusing and convincing points which Mr. Jennings (in this morning's *Times*) makes against the Lord Chancellor perhaps the neatest is the following :—

The Lord Chancellor assures the House of Lords that "there is no office of pursebearer." If that is so, the House of Commons has just voted an annual payment of £400 to an individual who does not exist. "The pursebearer" figures in the Civil Service Estimates (Class III., vote 30, p. 221), and by this time some one has drawn the money for him. I wish I could have disclosed to the House last week, on the Lord Chancellor's own authority, that the pursebearer is a phantom.

Lord Halsbury has been accused of giving fat posts to friends and relations; but really it is better to give them to actual friends than to "my friend Mrs. Harris."

It would seem from the Duke of Abercorn's speech at the Society of Arts yesterday that the Irish landlords contemplate yet another incursion into the British treasury. "I am afraid," he said, "that in the languishing condition of our industries outside Ulster, if we want to give them a chance of revival, the Government must infuse new blood into them." "Infuse new blood" means, of course, "bleed the taxpayer;" and here is the object for which the taxpayer is to contribute: to enable the "wives and daughters of petty farmers to add to the family comfort"—which, being interpreted, means a rate in aid of rents. Home industries for Ireland would be an excellent thing, but if the advocacy of them, is to be without suspicion they must wait for Home Rule.

Is the Irish landlord really so badly off as he pretends? Here is the substance of an interesting calculation which Sir George Trevelyan gave the House of Commons yesterday upon the average outgoings upon an Irish and an English estate of £1,300 respectively :—

IRISH.	
Income tax and half poor rate	£70
Agent's salary	50
Tithe rent charge	50
Rents reduced 20 per cent.	260
	430
Leaving net rental of	870
	£1,300

ENGLISH.	
Maintenance, tithes, rents, and agent	£325
Rents reduced 25 per cent.	325
	650
Leaving net rental of	£1,300

We congratulate the inhabitants of Croydon on the result of the poll which was taken this week on the question of the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts. A majority of 1,746 votes out of a total poll of 11,228 exceeded the anticipations of even the most hopeful and enthusiastic supporters of the movement. The victory is even the more marked, considering that the Acts were rejected on March, 1887, when there were only

1,017 votes recorded in favour of the adoption of the Acts. The poll has increased from 2,107 to 11,228 owing to the wisdom of the authorities in issuing voting papers instead of compelling voters to attend at a central polling place. Croydon has thus followed the example of Battersea, Lambeth, Kensington, Fulham, Wandsworth, and other parishes in and near London. The one lesson to be learned from this splendid result is that a defeat on the first attempt ought not to discourage the supporters of the Acts from trying again. Success is merely a question of time. We trust that this lesson will be taken to heart in every parish, metropolitan and provincial, in which the friends of ignorance have obtained a temporary victory over the friends of knowledge.

The refractory curtain at the Shaftesbury Theatre has yielded to persuasion, now rises every evening upon "The Lady of Lyons" with the best grace in the world. Miss Wallis puts her whole heart into her performance of Pauline, and plays with a fine sincerity and intensity of passion which at many points fairly carries the audience away. Mr. Forbes-Robertson, too, makes an excellent Claude, earnest and effective without staginess. Mr. Mackintosh is a bluff and soldierly Damas; Mr. Matthew Brodie speaks the difficult part of Gaspard with rare discretion, and the cast as a whole is as good as could be desired. The management, however, can scarcely hope to make "The Lady of Lyons" carry them far. The best possible acting will not make such a hackneyed play permanently attractive. Mr. Lancaster is flogging a dead horse. If the public is to learn the way to the Shaftesbury Theatre, it must have something novel as an attraction—not necessarily a new play, but at least a play which age has not withered and custom staled quite so fatally as "The Lady of Lyons."

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*A CHATTY CLUB BOOK.**

THE publishers of these handsome volumes have done well to entrust their illustration to the practised hand of Mr. Joseph Grego. No man has greater resources from which to select contemporary plates calculated to bring before the eye of the reader places and personages as they appeared fifty or a hundred years ago. To show his skill in the illustration of places a good sample is found in an article lately published in the *Graphic* describing a drive from London to Brighton at the end of the last century, and showing from drawings by Rowlandson a succession of roadside scenes which vividly bring before the reader the appearance of the villages and public-houses passed by the coach, which bore then a very different aspect from that which they now present. In the "Reminiscences of Captain Gronow," Mr. Grego, as is natural, deals rather with persons than with places; and the succession of portraits with which he enlivens these pages would have delighted the heart of the author, than whom none of us, we can well believe, would glance with more pleasure at those shop windows at the bottom of St. James's-street where are still displayed, though not perhaps in their old profusion, the profiles and figures—half portrait, half caricature—of the club celebrities of yesterday or the day before. After the French manner we are presented with copies in each case of the etching in black and white and in colours, and surely so complete a gallery of the fops, roués, and men about town during the first half of the present century has never before been presented to the public.

One great charm of the book is that Captain Gronow, in spite of his surroundings, always writes like a decent gentleman. If his string of anecdotes may not be read with perfect safety by a granddaughter to her grandparent, there is no question that a daughter-in-law may read them aloud with unblushing equanimity, and none can be imagined better calculated to soothe the evenings of any sexagenarian. As is natural, the author is a praiser of old days. In that he will have the sympathy of the ancient listener. "Perhaps it is because I am growing old, and woman has less charm than heretofore; but, whatever may be the reason, I cannot help thinking that in the 'merry days when I was young,' or in my hot youth, 'when George III. was King,' the women of England were more beautiful, better bred, and more distinguished in appearance, and above all in manner, than they are nowadays. How grand they used to look, with their tall, stately forms, small, thoroughbred heads, and long, flowing ringlets, dreamlike fair, and queenly as Ossian's fabled daughters!" Soon after this outburst he utters a serious remonstrance against the fast ways of the young ladies of the period when he was writing, with their wide-awake hats, walking with that indescribable jaunty, devil-may-care look "which is considered the right thing nowadays," making sporting bets, riding ahead in the Park, calling the paterfamilias "governor" (he forgets that probably in 1842 the word paterfamilias was a fast expression), talking of the young men who "spoon" them, and discussing with them the merits of Skittles and her horses, or the last scandalous story fabricated in the bay window at White's, "the very faintest allusion to which would have made their mothers' hair stand on end." "This," says poor Captain Gronow, writing in 1862, "is to be pleasant, and fast, and amusing." If such as the Captain exist now, it is not difficult to imagine similar complaints, which twenty years hence will appear similarly valueless, about the young ladies of the present day.

As to the historical value of these volumes, it is doubtful if the Captain's remarks have any great importance. He was present at Waterloo, and quotes with authority the Duke's famous word of command, "Up, Guards, and at them," which has long ago been proved to be apocryphal. As history probably all his stories are more or less apocryphal, but they are readable, and, under the guidance of Mr. Grego, the publisher has wisely elected to illustrate them, not by sketches made to order now, as is too often attempted in *éditions de luxe*, but by the reproduction of authentic engravings of the time, which suit the book none the worse because, like club men, club life, and the social surroundings of Captain Gronow, they are of an essentially ephemeral nature.

* "The Reminiscences and Recollections of Captain Gronow." (John C. Nimmo. 2 vols. 8vo. £3 3s.)

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*A SCOTTISH WALPOLE.**

NEARLY forty years have passed since Mr. Sharpe died. His representatives have been laudably discreet in withholding his correspondence so long from the world, but it must be confessed that it has lost much of its savour and flavour. A multitude of lords and ladies and fashionable people of all sorts and degrees figure in its pages. Most of them were never, it is true, of any real importance, but they were once well known, and we feel an interest, which, perhaps, is not very creditable to us, but which is certainly real, in reading about the well known, be they worthy or not worthy. Now they have vanished into their native darkness, and we care for them no more. But the people whom we do still care for, statesmen and authors, appear but seldom in these pages. Sir Walter Scott is indeed an exception. Scott and Sharpe were already friends in 1802, when the latter was a young man of twenty-one, and their friendship grew into intimacy, and lasted through life. Sharpe, indeed, is not always complimentary in what he says of him; but then he had a way of saying bitter things, which, at the most, he but half meant. "He is a very tedious fellow:" "he is much too *poetical;* he spouts without mercy." Many years afterwards he gives his opinion, after reading "Nicholas Nickleby," that Dickens is "worth a hundred Sir Walter Scotts," and that "Sir Walter's harmless *romances*—not harmless, however, as to bad English—contain *nothing*." What Scott, on the other hand, really thought of his friend, we perhaps do not know. Anyhow, he continually consulted him on literary matters, and was anxious to secure his co-operation for the scheme of the *Quarterly Review* and the *Edinburgh Annual Register*.

Sharpe's judgment on literature was not always trustworthy. Personal and political feeling—and he was a Tory of the Tories—sometimes tinged it. Byron, for instance, he evidently disliked; this was excusable; but it is curious to find him saying that he could "not get through" "Childe Harold." Possibly this was a *façon de parler*. He had been able to get through it sufficiently to say that it did not contain a stanza that one would remember. This is certainly a judgment which posterity has corrected.

One letter of Sharpe's is addressed to the poet. He professes himself one of his admirers, and urges him to undertake a poem on Charles I. Shelley's genius Sharpe could not help admiring: of the man he has no good to say. He "lives upon arsenic, aquafortis, and half an hour's sleep at night;" he is "bad and mad," but "The Cenci" is "well written." Most of the literary names of the time do not appear at all. Byron was a lord, and Shelley was a contemporary at Oxford, besides being a baronet's son. But of Wordsworth, Coleridge, Southey, Lamb, we hear nothing. There is one allusion to "Christopher North," and this to a work which is pretty well forgotten, "The Island of Palms;" about Thomas Carlyle and Chalmers, not a word, nor of the "Ettrick Shepherd," a plebeian person, whom Sharpe, who dearly loved a lord, would naturally ignore. There is not even an allusion to Burns—imagine two stout volumes of letters from and to a Scotchman, and not a word about Robert Burns! There are plenty of "Campbells" in the index, but not the Campbell of the "Pleasures of Hope." Lady Charlotte, and Lord John, and Lord Frederick, and Miss Campbell of Thorpe, were the kind whom Sharpe was interested in. In this way the book is a disappointment, though there is not a little in it that is worth reading. Even things of small value are often touched with a brightness that saves them from being dull, for Sharpe, though not a letter-writer of the very first class, had some skill in that now lost art. The memoir prefixed to the first volume by Mr. Bedford is admirable. Sharpe was born in 1781, went to Christ Church, Oxford, of which, by the way, he gives some humorous and not altogether flattering pictures, spent some ten years, after taking his degree, between London and Oxford, settled down in Edinburgh in 1813, and there spent the remainder of his days, living for twenty years in Princes-street with his mother, a most amiable and accomplished woman, and after her death, in 1836, removing to Drummond-place. There he died, about two months short of completing his seventieth year. He was rather poor than rich. Towards the end of his life he speaks of £200 a year being the greater part of his income; but he continued to indulge what is hardly a poor man's hobby—collecting *curios*—and was, on the whole, we should think, a happy man. He seems never to have thought of increasing his happiness by marriage.

* "Letters from and to Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe." Edited by Alexander Allardyce. With a Memoir by the Rev. W. R. R. Bedford. 2 vols. (Blackwood and Sons. Edinburgh and London. 1888.)

At Home and Abroad.

Yesterday the Emperor and Empress of Germany gave a banquet of thirty covers in honour of the Empress Frederick, whose birthday it was. The city also was well flagged in honour of the occasion, and the journals, with a few unworthy exceptions, are most complimentary to her bereaved Majesty.

In military circles in Berlin it is regarded as certain that a loan for a considerable amount, to defray army expenses, will be applied for.

The Tzar has placed the Château of Yalta at the disposal of the ex-Queen Nathalie, who intends to spend a few weeks in the Crimean Riviera. This act of courtesy is being much commented on in Russia.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says that Baron Mohrenheim, the Russian Ambassador in Paris, has been summoned to Russia, and will start in a few days.

The Cape revenue returns show a material advance. The Natal Railway receipts last week exceeded £10,000.

Gold to the value of £100,000 has been engaged in New York for export to Germany, and presumably for eventual shipment to South America.

The first pilgrimage of any body of Catholics from the United States is now preparing for departure to Rome and the Holy Land. They will number over a hundred.

The Earl of Derby presided at the Memorial Festival dinner of the Charing-cross Hospital at the Hôtel Métropole last night, when the donations amounted to £3,250.

It is reported from Belgrade that a great many suspicious characters from Russia and Montenegro have been entering the country with the object, as is supposed, of creating disorders during the elections of the 2nd of December.

The Radical party in Servia has drawn up a declaration which says that the Great Skuptschina will not properly represent the nation, unless the Radicals have a majority in it.

At a Liberal meeting in the St. Pancras vestry hall last night, addresses were delivered by Mr. Stansfeld, Father McFadden, Mr. Eccleston Gibb, Mr. P. W. Clayden, and other gentlemen. Resolutions in favour of the Liberal policy were carried with enthusiasm.

Lady Mountmorres, who fainted in court last Friday, while under cross-examination by Sir C. Russell, received on Saturday a telegram of kind inquiries and sympathy from the Queen, followed on Sunday by a letter from her Majesty.

Mr. Maunsell Richardson, the Unionist candidate for the Brigg division of Lincolnshire, has offered to remit from the rents of his tenants, but they have unanimously declined to accept the remission, on the ground that he has already so generously met their wishes. Can it be true?

President Cleveland has begun the preparation of the annual Message, which will be sent to Congress when the session opens on December 3. He will reiterate his views on the reduction of the surplus and on tariff reform, but since the election this question attracts little attention, as opposite ideas will now prevail.

M. Karaveloff, who was Prime Minister at the time of Prince Alexander's overthrow, and M. Zankoff have been making utterances on the Macedonian question, saying that the annexation of Macedonia is a matter of vital importance to Bulgaria, and that if Prince Ferdinand will shape his policy according to this idea they will become his devoted partisans.

It is reported from Dallas, Texas, that Mrs. George Hirsch, of Nevarro County, has given birth to six children, all of whom are living and doing well. Four are boys and two are girls. The boys have been named Frederick, Mills, Cleveland, and Thurman; the girls are Victoria and Louise. The babies have been labelled carefully, so as to preserve their identity.

Great preparations are being made in New York for a national celebration upon April 29 and 30 next of the centennial of the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States. The new President and his Cabinet will take part in the festivities, which will include parades and receptions, winding up with a grand ball.

Mr. Labouchere, M.P., referring at a large meeting at Walthamstow last night to the Parnell Commission, said that so far as he could see, the *Times* had proved absolutely nothing as yet, and he thought that they kept harping upon outrages because of the letters, which would be proved to be forgeries, and were anxious to keep off the evil day as long as possible.

John Doyle, a mechanic, met with a terrible death on board the steamship *Michigan*, in Liverpool, yesterday. He was unscrewing valves in the air pumps, and had his head and arms in the cylinder when the engines were started. Before Doyle could move, his head and both arms were severed from the body. It is asserted that he had warning that the engines were to be started.

Advices from Milan state that workmen of that city, belonging to forty-six societies, passed a resolution yesterday evening protesting in vigorous terms against war in general, and also against the Triple Alliance. To this resolution was added a declaration that they would not support the Italian Government in the event of war breaking out.

Princess Verogna, daughter of a celebrated Mohawk chief, is now lecturing in America. She recently announced publicly that she had collected a million dollars in London for the purpose of establishing a university at Washington for educating Indians. Colonel Jacques, of London, who formerly lived in Philadelphia, is said to have pledged to the cause this handsome sum of money.

The Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Manisty yesterday declined to make an order to excuse Mr. Claude J. Montefiore—a candidate for the Tower Hamlets at the pending School Board election—from the consequences of an offence against the Municipal Corrupt and Illegal Practices Act, 1884, by holding a meeting in part of a Conservative Club, Stepney, in which intoxicating liquors were sold.

Early yesterday morning a gang of poachers, numbering about forty, came into collision with the keepers and armed watchers on the Duke of Portland's preserves, at Welbeck, Notts. A desperate struggle followed, in the course of which nearly every poacher sustained serious injuries, and one keeper was so badly wounded that his life is in danger. Eleven of the gang were apprehended.

The man named Charles Ward, who was said to have conspired with a man calling himself Edward Terry to defraud people by means of a pretended theatrical agency, was brought before the magistrate at Westminster yesterday. Mr. Terry, of the theatre which bears his name in the Strand, said he knew neither of the men in custody, and the representations they had made were not such as would be made by any honest theatrical company. The prisoner was remanded.

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THE EMPEROR'S SPEECH TO THE GERMAN REICHSTAG.

THE RUMOURED MILITARY LOAN.

To-day the Reichstag will be opened by the Emperor in person. In the Speech from the Throne his Majesty will, it is said, in alluding to his recent tour among the chief European Courts, dwell on the friendly relations of Germany to all her neighbours, and express the hope, founded on the present state of Europe, that peace will be preserved. The *Börsen Zeitung* hears that the Emperor will clearly give to understand that his Government will not be remiss in safeguarding German interests in East Africa; and it adds:—

German troops will take possession of Customs stations in East Africa, the revenue therefrom to cover their keep, and render them independent of the Sultan. The German East African Company will, in the meantime, have to be reorganized, gradually acquiring a colonial force of its own for its defence. The blockade is to last a year at least.

The Reichstag will be at once presented with the Imperial Budget, which, according to a trustworthy authority, is balanced with the sum of 949,000,000 m., whereof 806,500,000 m. are for ordinary outlay. The Government will ask for another loan of about 80,000,000 m. (equal to about £4,000,000), of which 50,000,000 m. are to be applied to military purposes, such as the building of fortresses and barracks, and the perfection of the artillery, while only about 5,000,000 m. are meanwhile allotted to naval ends. This comparatively small appropriation for naval expenditure is explained by the fact that the Government has not yet wholly made up its mind with respect to the number and nature of the new warships which are to be added to the sea power of the Empire, and for these a large supplementary credit (given at 112,000,000 m.) will be wanted, though this will extend over six years. About 14,000,000 m. will be allotted to the completion and extension of the railway system in Alsace-Lorraine and the south-west of the Empire. It may be remarked that the above figures belie the recent rumours of an intention on the part of the Government to demand an immensely larger sum for adding to the armaments of the Empire.

THE TZAR AND HIS BULGARIAN OFFICERS.

The Russian War Minister, acting under orders from the Tzar, has notified to all the Bulgarian officers serving in the Russian army that after January 1 next they will not be allowed to figure on the Army List as Bulgarians, but must become Russian subjects or leave the service. The number of these officers is nearly sixty. Most of them were received into the Russian service after the overthrow of Prince Alexander, but a few were admitted at a later date, after the attempted insurrections at Bourgas, Varna, Silistria, and Rustchuk. "I am informed," says a *Times* correspondent, "that thirty-five of the officers have already petitioned to re-enter the Bulgarian Army, and Prince Ferdinand seems disposed to pass the sponge over their offences. On formally expressing contrition for their conduct, and swearing fidelity to the Prince, they will be recommissioned with the grades which they held in the Russian Army. Several of the officers, however, who were sentenced to death or to long terms of imprisonment *per contumaciam*, cannot well pretend to this favour, and they will probably remain in the Russian service. Some political importance is attached in Vienna to the Tzar's decision, the inferences drawn from it being favourable. Obviously the chances of friction between Russia and Bulgaria were much greater while three score of outlawed Bulgarian officers held commissions in the Tzar's service."

PRESIDENT HARRISON'S POST-BAG.

The President-elect of America, General Harrison, at Indianapolis, receives daily huge parcels of congratulatory letters. He answered forty-four letters on Tuesday, each of which informed him that a baby born since the election had been named "Benjamin Harrison." His wife similarly acknowledged letters concerning numerous little "Carrie Harrison's." The contents of the President's post-bag are, however, gradually changing from congratulatory epistles to requests for offices.

The Sioux Indians, whom the Government has long been trying to persuade to sell their lands, have told President Cleveland's agents that there will soon be another "Great Father" in Washington, and they have sent General Harrison word that they desire to see him before his assumption of office.

IS DINIZULU BEING FAIRLY TREATED?

A Durban telegram to the *Chronicle* says:—Dinizulu was hurriedly sent to Zululand on Tuesday night, without any notice of his removal having been given either to his legal advisers or his friends, while the affidavits read in court at Etshowe quite dispose of the idea that he either wished or consented to go. The interdict against his removal was only upset, after considerable hesitation, and by decidedly straining the interpretation of the local law passed in 1880, which completely traverses all the safeguards provided by the Fugitive Offenders Act, on which Dinizulu's advisers relied. The charge of murder against Dinizulu is also very vague, the warrants not even stating whom he is charged with murdering, or when the alleged crime was committed.

A *Times* telegram says:—The evidence given in the trial of Somkele shows that he joined the rebels under threats that he would otherwise be killed. One Dutchman told the Zulus that they must join Dinizulu against the English. Captain Mansel, commanding the Zululand native police, gave an interesting narrative of the attack on Hlopekulu, which broke the neck of the rebellion. He complained that he could not obtain military support.

PRADO AND HIS PRISON WARDERS.

Prado has laid aside his sarcastic manner since he was transferred from the Conciergerie to the Roquette Prison. He has requested the governor, M. Beauquesne, to do him the charity of sometimes dropping in to his cell to chat a little with him. A great resource of ordinary criminals under sentence of death is playing cards with the warders. Prado refuses to enter into social relations with the two men who guard him. There are, he says, no mental points of contact between them, and he shuddered at the sight of the greasy pack of cards which one of them, from a feeling of kindness, placed on a table for him, as they had served to amuse many of his predecessors. Prado has expressed his willingness to receive the prison chaplain as a friend and a man of the world, but not in his religious capacity.

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THE PALL MALL BUDGET is sent post free to any address in the United Kingdom for 4s. 11d. per quarter.

Tittle Tattle for the Tea Table.

I was told yesterday by one who ought to know that the Parnell Commission will cost the *Times*, unless Mr. Smith obliges his friend Mr. Walter by a draft on the Treasury, the tidy little sum of £100,000. The Irish members' expenses will be at least as much, and towards that sum there has been subscribed at present only £23,000, £16,000 in Ireland, and £7,000 at Liverpool. The hat will have to be sent round with vigour if there is not to be a collapse.

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The Tzarevitch, who was received with such marked honour by the German Emperor at Berlin yesterday, is a fine lad, as simple and natural as an English schoolboy. So at least he seemed to Mr. Gladstone when he met him several years ago at Copenhagen, and so he is represented by those who know him intimately. He is reserved and quiet. But he is a diligent student, kind-hearted, and excellently disciplined at home by as sensible and affectionate a father and mother as are to be found on the surface of this planet.

***

The Heir Apparent to the Throne of Muscovy is very fond of reading. He knows English very well, and his favourites in our literature are Shakspeare and Scott. A very interesting story is told of him which sheds a ray of light upon the aspirations of the boy. He was reading "The Lady of the Lake," and came in the fifth canto to the line, "Long live the Commons' King, King James." The boy's eyes gleamed as he looked up and repeated the words. "Yes," he said, "the King of the common people; that is the only kind of King that I would care to be." The lad has evidently absorbed the better traditions of the Tzardom.

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It is a fact that Mr. Shaw Lefevre's scheme for a mortuary chapel at Westminster is baulked by Mr. Labouchere's purchase of one of the two houses doomed by the scheme. Mr. Labouchere, when approached, gaily smiled and announced his intention to "do the place up and live there." To make the best of his repulse, Mr. Shaw Lefevre proceeded solemnly to offer Mr. Labouchere, as a compensating attraction, that he should have a portion of the chapel appropriated to his peculiar use. The senior member for Northampton, as I hear, is considering the proposition.

***

Mrs. Cleveland intends making her last winter in the White House the most memorable of her career there. She will have lots of friends to stay with her from time to time, and she will vary the beaten track of official hospitalities by a number of less formal parties which she will arrange for the pleasure of her guests.

***

Mrs. President has taken the defeat very coolly, and her only regret is that she was cut dead by Lord Sackville's daughter a few days ago when the two ladies met in a Washington shop. At least, so goes the story. Mrs. Cleveland offered her shaking hand, upon which the beautiful, haughty daughter of Lord Sackville is said to have turned her back.

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Mr. Smalley, who ought to know, makes quite sure in his London letter to the *Tribune* that Mr. Phelps will go out with the old year.

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Mdme. Patti is very careful about the night air, and, as a rule, avoids dinner parties, but she makes exceptions. Last night the *diva* and her husband, M. Nicolini, dined with Mr. and Mrs. Labouchere.

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So Mr. Frank Harris is to succeed Mr. Gent-Davis as Tory member for Kennington! Well, well; we shall be hearing of Frank as Prime Minister next. Some day perhaps he will write his Memoirs, describing his rocket-like rush to fame and fortune. If they are frank, they will be interesting and amusing, which is more than can be said for the work we have hitherto had from his pen.

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Last winter Mr. Frank Harris met an English clergyman in the South of Europe upon whom he failed to exercise his magnetic charm. "Sir," said the cleric, "you have forgotten that humility is ever a distinguishing attribute of a great man." "Don't believe a word of it," said Mr. Harris. "Then I regret to say you differ from Socrates," rejoined the clergyman. "Socrates?" said Mr. Harris: "I don't believe Socrates ever said any such thing." And then his enemy had him on the hip. But of course the authority of Socrates is not to be compared for a moment to the authority of Mr. Frank Harris on such a subject as this—at least, in the opinion of the about-to-be Tory candidate for Kennington, who certainly can claim with justice that he practises what he preaches.

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The Duke of Marlborough appears to add to the other occupations of his exalted station that of consulting gardener to the Duchess of Montrose. It was he, it seems from yesterday's law proceedings, who advised the Duchess that the orchids were too white, and it was to him that the orchid-grower was willing to refer the dispute between "the old gal" (as the head gardener called her) and himself. But where was Mr. Manton's Mr. Milner?

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I referred the other day to a pseudo "escaped nun" who was lecturing in the States. The *Daily Telegraph* this morning tells a story of another curious lecturer across the Atlantic, a Princess Verogna, daughter of a Mohawk chief, who has announced publicly that she has collected £200,000 in London for the purpose of establishing a university at Washington for educating Indians. This is the first time the London public have heard anything about this lavish munificence of theirs.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE ALARM IN WHITECHAPEL.

THE ARREST OF LAST NIGHT.

On inquiry at the different police-stations at the East-end this morning it was found that the man who is "wanted" for the attempted murder in George-street, Spitalfields, yesterday, has not been arrested. The excitement caused by the occurrence had by no means abated last night, for Whitechapel was in a considerable state of alarm. One indication of the prevailing feeling among the women in the locality is found in the fact that at an early hour this morning one of the women referred to, on being spoken to in Brick-lane by a man who was passing, immediately raised cries of "Murder!" and "Police!" The man made off, but being followed as far as Buxton's Brewery, he was there caught and taken to the Commercial-street police-station. A somewhat sensational account of this arrest appears in the morning papers, to the effect that the man resisted the police and drew a knife when captured. But this is contradicted by the police to-day. The charge which will be preferred against him is one of simple assault. The case has no connection whatever with yesterday's outrage.

There is nothing new to be said about the attempt made in the lodging-house in George-street on the life of the woman Farmer, except that she is a woman about forty years of age, who lately resided with her husband, a tradesman, in Featherstone-street, City-road, but, on account of her dissolute habits, was separated from him. On Monday night the woman had no money, and being unable to obtain any, walked the streets until about half-past seven yesterday morning. At that time she got into conversation with a man, and at his suggestion they went to the common lodging-house, 19, George-street, and paid the deputy 8*d.* for a bed. That was about eight o'clock, and nothing was heard to cause alarm or suspicion until half-past nine, when screams were heard proceeding from the room occupied by the man and Farmer. Some men who were in the kitchen of the house at the time rushed upstairs and met the woman coming down. She was partially undressed, and was bleeding profusely from a wound in the throat. She was asked what was the matter, and simply said, "He's done it," at the same time pointing to the door leading into the street. The men rushed outside, but the deputy of the lodging-house wrapped a piece of rag over the woman's wound, and, seeing that it did not appear to be a dangerous cut, got her to dress herself. Dr. Phillips, divisional surgeon of the H division, quickly arrived, and stitched up the wound. Although none but police-officers were allowed to interview her with regard to the attack, it has transpired that she had previously met her assailant some twelve months since, and owing to this fact the officers are doubtful whether the man had anything to do with the murders. Superintendent T. Arnold, who was quickly apprised of what had happened, at once ordered detective officers Thicke, New, M'Guire, and others to endeavour to capture the man, and by about 10.30 a full description of him was telegraphed to all the police-stations throughout the metropolitan police district.

MRS. CHAMBERLAIN: BY ONE OF HER COMPANIONS.

"A SWEET, DEMURE PURITAN MAIDEN."

The London correspondent of the *Liverpool Post* writes:—I met last night an American lady, a neighbour and companion of Mr. Chamberlain's bride, Miss Endicott. I asked what she was like, and the faithful friend answered, "charming." "She has fair hair, and a delicious pink and white complexion," added the eulogist, "a beautiful figure, full of grace, a low soft voice, and, to crown all she dresses perfectly. She is quite a type of the sweet, demure Puritan maiden, and, apart from her face, which is attractive if not very pretty, she has an air of refined distinction which would mark her out in any crowded room. She was very carefully brought up, Mr. and Mrs. Endicott being extremely particular people. Mary has quiet, demure ways, never going in for what Washington girls call 'a frolic.' At supper parties and after a play—and I have met her at several—she would always leave early. I was in Washington a few days before Mr. Chamberlain arrived, and, knowing I often visited London, she asked all sorts of questions about him. I left Washington before Mr. Chamberlain arrived, but I heard that he met her at a dance almost immediately on his arrival. It was love at first sight. He devoted himself to her, would hardly dance with any one else, and saw her wherever she went."

THE SPITALFIELDS FIRE.—A FATAL RESULT.

Mary Ann Coleman, the girl who was so seriously burned in the fire at 295, Brick-lane, Spitalfields, yesterday, died at the London Hospital early this morning. She was only fifteen years of age.

LOST WITH NEARLY ALL ON BOARD.

A Reuter's telegram from the Hague states that the French barque *Ango*, of Vannes, bound from Grimsby for Buenos Ayres, was wrecked yesterday off Scheveningen. All on board, it is feared, have perished, except two persons who were cast up alive on the beach.

THE BALLAD CONCERTS.

How brilliantly the ballad concerts were inaugurated last night at St. James's Hall; and what an array of talent! Since the last ballad concert two of the ladies have changed their names, and their patrons put wedding congratulations into their applause. Lady Hallé still appears on the programme, however, as Mdme. Norman Néruda. Miss Mary Davies has simply become Mrs. Mary Davies She appeared twice last night, and between her songs at St. James's Hall she sandwiched a gratuitous engagement at the new Welsh Presbyterian church at Charing-cross, in which her husband takes a great interest. Then there was Mdme. Bertha Moore, whose singing was as charming as her face and figure; and Mdme. Belle-Cole, the powerful effect of whose voice was about equal to that of her magnificent dress of ivory brocade. Mdme. Sterling was there, so also was the other Antoinette—Trebelli. Sims Reeves on this occasion didn't disappoint the public; but he tripped on and off as lightly as ever, was cheered immensely—for the sake of auld lang syne—and sang "The Message," "My Pretty Jane," and the "Jolly Young Waterman" (the latter to the great delight of the galleries). Signor Foli, whom we hear too seldom, was in fine form. That jolly, rollicking Tipperary boy gave for an encore "Father O'Flynn," in a truly Hibernian style, which was a welcome relief after Parnell Commissions and Land Purchase Bills. Mr. Maybrick and Barrington Foote were also included in the programme; so there was a good deal for the money.

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure and untampered with. It has stood the keenest analytical tests, and consists solely of the concentrated essence of the Cocoa bean, the flavour being developed and the aroma improved by a special process of roasting.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

The appearance of the Parnell Commission Court this morning presented a striking difference to that of yesterday: the possibility of a scene in connection with the Harrington incident crowded the court and gangways. To-day they look bare: the barristers' benches are half empty, and the entries to the court are clear. The gallery, as usual, is fairly filled with spectators, and a few ladies looked down from the ladies' alcove. Sir Richard Webster (at whose side sat his *fidus Achates*, Mr. Murphy) resumed the examination-in-chief of Mr. Maurice Leonard. Sir Charles Russell and Mr. Lockwood were the only other occupants of the front row. Mr. Biggar and Mr. Davitt were present; so also was Mr. Soames. Mr. Leonard opened a large bag, and the court calmly settled down to consideration of the list of minor outrages in Kerry. To-day's sitting does not promise much matter of a sensational kind.

THE LITERARY ABILITY OF IRISH TENANT FARMERS.

Mr. Leonard mentioned several cases in which farmers on the estate with which he was connected, while intending to pay the full rent due, had besought him to give them receipts which would indicate that they had only paid rent up to the amount of the valuation, Father O'Connor having declared at a meeting at Killarney that no rent should be paid beyond the amount of the valuation—a wish on the part of the farmers with which the witness had complied. He read with some gusto imploring letters to this effect which were imputed to have been written by two of the said farmers. The writers declared that if it were known that they had paid the full rent they would be boycotted, and their lives would be endangered, appealed to him to help them out of their "terrible difficulty," and begged him over and over again to keep the arrangement a "dead secret." It was also alleged that an impression had prevailed on the part of the writers that their letters were liable to be tampered with in the local post-office; in one case, the writer asked that the estate office reply should not only be sent in a plain envelope, but should be forwarded to the address of his daughter. The composition, if not the caligraphy, of the letters compelled attention: they materially raised the listener's estimate of the literary ability and skill of the Irish tenant farmer. The witness had issued a number of writs in one townland; with the result that the farmers continuing on their holdings had to pay many pounds more than they would have had to part with had they paid their rents when due.

EPISTOLARY AND STATISTICAL.

A few more letters of a similar character were read; four National League cards, which witness had found in tenants' pass books, were put in; and then the Attorney-General came to matters of a more general character. Mr. Leonard was very emphatic in his opinion that in the years 1880, 1881, and 1882, 1885, and 1886 no other organizations save the Land League and the National League preached the doctrine of non-payment of rent. He submitted a list of branches in the neighbourhood of Lord Kenmare's estate, together with the names of their presidents. He did not believe the outrages and intimidation could have been caused by any secret society. "Are you willing to give information as to the tenants on your estate?" "I court it," replied Mr. Leonard; and thereupon gave a list of the evictions that have taken place on Lord Kenmare's property, which may conveniently be tabulated as follows. There are about 2,000 tenants in all.

Year.	Evicted. (*a*) Permanently.	(*b*) Readmitted as caretakers.
1874 to 1880	2	43
1881	5	15
1882	3	99
1883	2	77
1884	1	68
1885	none	44
1886	1	48
1887	4	50
1888	1	3
	19	384

Most of these tenants could have paid their rents if they had chosen to do so. The Attorney-General's last question extracted some valuable testimony from an independent witness as to the success of Mr. Balfour's régime in Ireland. "Is the National League as powerful as ever in the district?" asked the Attorney-General. "Oh, yes, powerful as ever." So valuable did this testimony seem to Sir Charles Russell, who now commenced his cross-examination, that he at once took up the parable and endeavoured to elicit a confirmation. "It is quite true," said Leonard, "the League is as powerful as ever it was."

A TENANT'S INTEREST OF £1,100 BOUGHT FOR £10.

One of Sir Charles Russell's earliest questions in opening his cross-examination ran: "Did you see some of these correspondents before they wrote their letters?" "Certainly not," emphatically answered the witness, "except in the ordinary way of paying rent." The farmers whose letters he had read were "very comfortable." One of the phases of the agitation had been that the richer should stand by the poorer tenants. The witness said he had been fighting against both the Leagues, which had given him serious trouble on the estate. Harsh evictions, he acknowledged, would lead to crimes, but he would not acknowledge that he had been identified with harsh evictions. Where disturbance followed ordinary evictions, it was due to the League causing the assemblage of people. Sir Charles next elicited from the witness a number of statistics as to writs issued on the estate, and facts as to the various processes employed against tenants. Writs which he might have taken out in the county court he had taken out in the superior courts, which increased their cost, because they afforded him a speedier means of obtaining his rents. The witness mentioned a case where the interest of a widow in two farms close to the town of Killarney, which had been adjudged by the Land Commission as worth £1,100, had been bought by the landlord in 1887 for £10—£5 for each farm; and, at the suggestion of the President, Sir Charles brought out the whole of the facts in relation to it. In 1886 the stock had been seized for judicial rent, after which the rent was paid with £19 added costs. At the time the interest was sold the rent was twelve months in arrear. This was the period when there was an abnormal fall in prices, compelling the interference of Parliament. The witness agreed to make an abatement of £100 upon the judicial rent of £263; but the tenant would not accept his terms, and the sale of interest followed. The witness made much of the solvency of tenants, but Sir Charles was unable to obtain from him a clear answer as to whether he thought the tenant ought to pay the full rent where there had been an abnormal fall in prices simply because he might be able to pay it from other sources than his profits on the season. According to the witness, the tenant's son had become a leader in the agitation, and had done all he possibly could to stop the payment of rent.

A "TIMES" WITNESS ON TRIAL AT THE OLD BAILEY.

At the Central Criminal Court to-day, Joseph Cavanagh, aged thirty, described as a shoemaker, was placed on his trial on the charge of shooting at Patrick Lane, with intent to murder him. Mr. Purcell prosecuted, and Mr. Poland and Mr. H. C. Richards defended. The prosecutor and the prisoner are both subpœnaed witnesses for the *Times* in the Parnell Commission. On the afternoon of the 1st of November the parties met in the George public-house, opposite the Royal Law Courts. They had what was described by the prosecutor as a "friendly drink." They got into an altercation about the Commission, and high words ensued. The prosecutor was alleged to have thrown a glass at the prisoner, and a struggle followed, in the course of which the prisoner was thrown down and kicked by the prosecutor, after which the prosecutor left. The prisoner followed, and, overtaking him in Fleet-street, fired a shot from a revolver. A bystander touched the prisoner's arm, and the pistol was projected upwards, while the defendant "bobbed his head," and the shot did no harm to the prosecutor or any one. The prosecuting counsel urged upon the jury that a man firing a revolver must be held to be responsible for the consequences of such an act, and that it was a proper thing to assume that the prisoner intended to commit murder. The case is proceeding.

A BARRISTER'S MIDNIGHT VISIT TO BOW-STREET.

Before Sir James Ingham, at Bow-street police-court to-day, Mr. W. H. S. Ralston, barrister, of the Inner Temple, was charged with being drunk and disorderly. Police-constable 316 E deposed that last night he was on reserve duty at the Bow-street police-station, when the defendant went up to him and said that he wished to see the Home Secretary. Witness told him he was not at the police-station, whereupon he became very abusive. The witness tried to induce him to go away, but he refused, and it became necessary to take him into custody. Mr. Ralston: Was it not when I was asked by the inspector if anybody knew me that I replied, "Yes, the Home Secretary, the late Home Secretary, Sir W. Harcourt, and Sir James Stephen"? Sir James Ingham (to witness): Is that so? Witness: No, Sir James; he said he wanted the Home Secretary. Sir James Ingham (to the defendant): It is rather odd to mistake Bow-street for the Home Office. Mr. Ralston said he wanted a little assistance from the police, and in reply to the charge said that he did not mention the names stated until the inspector had asked him if he knew anybody. They would not allow him to refer to anybody, until he was at last bailed by a publican. He was kept at the station, and was never more astonished in his life. Sir James Ingham: Well, it is rather awkward to go to a police-station at—(to the constable)—what time was it?—Twelve o'clock, sir. Mr. Ralston asked to be allowed to state that he had been in Whitechapel for three nights, and had been with an Attaché of the Russian Embassy at the Leman-street police-station as late as one or half-past in the morning in his capacity as a journalist. Sir James Ingham: You see, it is much better that you should discontinue the habit: we are not accustomed to it at Bow-street. You are discharged. Mr. Ralston: Thank you, sir.

CUT DOWN AND SUNK IN PORT.

Early this morning, while the steamship *Prudhoe Castle*, of Newcastle, was entering Shields harbour, she came into collision with the steamship *Vauxhall*, of London. The latter vessel was cut down to below the water mark, and rapidly filled and sank. The crew were saved.

THE CAPSIZING OF A BOAT AT EASTBOURNE.

It has been ascertained that only two men were on board the fishing-boat *Palantine*, which was capsized in a squall off Eastbourne on Tuesday. They were local fishermen. Their bodies have not been recovered. The lifeboat crew, and others who put off to render assistance, are to be entertained at a public dinner to-night.

RUSSELL LOWELL'S PARTING SPEECH.

Mr. Russell Lowell, who leaves England to-day for America, was last night entertained at dinner by the members of the Liverpool Philomathic Society at the Adelphi Hotel. Replying to the toast of his health, Mr. Lowell said he thought it the duty of any man who could say anything, whether by pen or voice, that affected others, to give expression to the friendly feelings which it was the desire of all wise and honest men to deepen between the two great countries represented by his entertainers and himself. He had seen an allusion in the newspapers lately to what journalists liked to call the tension between the two countries. He could not help thinking this was the result of a little unwisdom on both sides. He had always felt that nothing was more foolish, and ought to be more rigidly left to children, than the "You're another" style of repartee. Physically each side, no doubt, might say with truth, "You're another;" but there were occasions when telling a person that he was "another" was apt to have a very disastrous effect, and they ought to be avoided. It was not for him to say a word about Imperial Federation. He was not sure it would be a good thing, or that, if it were a good thing, it was not a dream. But it seemed to him that nobody who looked forward could help seeing that the time might not be far distant when a good understanding among all the English-speaking peoples, with their enormous resources, might have great weight in deciding the destinies of mankind. The great duty laid on the English-speaking races was to carry forward the great lesson of liberty combined with honour, and, therefore, nothing could be more important than to preserve the friendly relations between the two greatest representatives of this conquering and colonising race.

LORD SPENCER AND MR BALFOUR.

Speaking at North Shields yesterday, Lord Spencer said he was every day more convinced that the only true policy for Ireland was to substitute responsible Irish Government for the English Government in Dublin, and to substitute conciliation for coercion. Referring to the Leeds speech of Mr. Balfour, he denied that he was guilty of illegality in mitigating Mr. Harrington's punishment, and read a letter he received at the time from Sir William Harcourt, which showed that the Secretary of State had power to mitigate punishment in England, and recommended the example being followed in Ireland. If he broke the law, Mr. Balfour had done the same in the case of Irish priests, who wore their own clothes in prison.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM OPENS THE REICHSTAG.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, Nov. 22.—The Session of the Reichstag was opened at noon to-day by the Emperor William, in the White Hall of the Royal Castle. The Emperor's Speech commenced by referring to home affairs, and alluded to his Majesty's tours through the Empire, which he declared convinced him that the idea of Imperial unity had taken deep root among the entire people. After mentioning the incorporation of Hamburg and Bremen in the Customs Union, and the conclusion of a commercial convention with Switzerland, the Emperor adverted to the financial position of the Empire, and expressed gratification at the improvement in trade. Although the depression weighing upon agriculture was not yet removed, the possibility of the realization of a higher value for agricultural produce justified the hope of a change for the better. The Speech proceeded to announce bills dealing with trade associations and a reform of the system of insurance in case of illness, old age, and infirmity. In regard to foreign affairs the Emperor dwelt upon the pacific character both of Germany's relations with Foreign Powers and of the aims of German policy. His Majesty's recent visits to foreign countries had been undertaken with the object of bringing about an understanding in the interest of peace, and it had given rise to a feeling of universal confidence which justified the hope of the maintenance of peace. No military bills or credits are announced, and but a brief reference is made to East African affairs.

THE QUEEN AND MR. BRIGHT.

A Rochdale telegram states that there is no apparent change in Mr. Bright's condition. He has not had a very good night, but he is now able to get some rest. During the whole of yesterday Mr. Bright made a little more progress, but although it is soothing to his family to see him free from pain and apparently recovering, they do not rely with too much confidence upon this, remembering that he is still in a weak state. The Queen has sent several messages of inquiry and sympathy, and the Prince and Princess of Wales kindly seek information at One Ash respecting the veteran statesman. One encouraging feature to record is that Mr. Bright himself declares that he feels better.

MORE ABOUT SWEATING.

To-day Mr. Tilley, the secretary of the Dock Labourers' Union, gave further evidence before Lord Dunraven's Committee. He said there was some difficulty in getting good men to represent the labourers before the Committee, because they feared that they would be discharged. A dead set was made against union men both by the dock companies and their employés. The London and St. Katharine's Dock Company owned four docks, and the East and West India Docks also owned four docks, and they were amalgamated under a working agreement. Some of the work was done by task work and the rest by contract. There had been recently a dispute at Tilbury Docks, and the men who had taken an active part in the matter had been refused admission to that dock.

TEXT OF THE LAND PURCHASE BILL.

The following is the text of the Irish Land Purchase Bill (after the usual introduction) :—

1. Section 2, subsection (*c*), of the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1885, and the Acts amending the same, shall be read and construed as if the words "ten million pounds" were substituted for the words "five million pounds" in the said subsection; and the money required for the purpose of advances under the said Acts as amended by this Act shall be advanced out of the Local Loans Fund, in accordance with the National Debt and Local Loans Act, 1887.

2. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Purchase of Land (Ireland) Act, 1888.

M. GILLY'S "REVELATIONS."

M. Gilly's book of scandalous revelations, entitled "Mes Dossiers," is out. It contains nothing which is really new. Many of the so-called revelations were already printed for private circulation by dismissed officials of the Department of Public Safety, and others got out when the Wilson trial was taking place. M. Salis and others seem determined to bring actions for libel against the author and publisher. The book is hawked about in the Paris thoroughfares. The Boulangist committees have undertaken to scatter it broadcast all over the country.

Mr. Balfour progresses most satisfactorily. In order to avoid a recurrence of his cold it is understood that the right hon. gentleman will not leave his house this week.

Mr. Gladstone will leave London on Saturday next for Hawarden, and will not return during the present session of Parliament unless urgently required.

Mrs. Jay Gould, the wife of the American millionaire, is dying.

Mr. J. S. Dugdale, Q.C., M.P., recorder of Birmingham, has been elected a Bencher of the Inner Temple.

Mr. Walt Whitman's new volume, entitled "November Boughs," will, it is said, appear in December.

Mr. Akers-Douglas, M.P., has joined the Board of Directors of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, in the place of the late Lord Alfred Paget.

Mr. Ritchie, President of the Local Government Board, will preside at the 224th anniversary dinner of the Scottish Corporation, at the Hôtel Métropole, on Friday, the 30th inst.

Mr. C. C. Lewis held an inquest last evening at Harlow on the body of Mrs. Glyn, the wife of the late chairman of quarter sessions, who met with her death from injuries received in a carriage accident on the 13th inst. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from misadventure."

The Rev. J. H. Scott, of Weymouth, has been offered by the patrons the rectory of Spitalfields, in succession to the Bishop of Bedford, and he has announced his acceptance of the charge.

At Tamworth last evening Mr. Robert Peel, son of Sir Robert Peel, Bart., was presented with a very valuable casket and illuminated address by the tenants of the Drayton estates, in recognition of his having attained his majority.

The Conference on Evangelical Preaching was concluded at the City Temple yesterday. Among those who took part in the proceedings were the Revs. Dr. Green, Dr. Clifford, Dr. Monro Gibson, J. Guinness Rogers, R. F. Horton, and Hugh Price Hughes, Professor Davison, and Mr. Percy Bunting.

At a special general meeting of the Society of British Artists, held in their Galleries on Monday, the 19th inst., we hear that the resignations of the following gentlemen were read:—Messrs. T. C. Gotch, Lance Calkin, J. J. Shannon, T. B. Kennington, and the society's treasurer, David Law.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

BANK RATE FIVE PER CENT.—HOME RAILWAYS AND FOREIGN STOCKS DULL.—AMERICANS DEPRESSED.

The Bank of England directors at their meeting this morning decided to make no alteration in their official minimum, which therefore remains at 5 per cent. In the open market quotations are fully maintained, and again exhibit an upward tendency. Three months' bank paper is not now readily discounted below 3¾ per cent., while 3 per cent. is freely paid for short loans. The action of the Bank of England in taking money off the market, together with the withdrawals of gold from the Bank from abroad, are at last, therefore, having a decided effect on the value of money in the open market, and it is hoped that rates will before long reach a point which will stop the efflux of gold from the Bank. This afternoon's Bank statement is looked for with more than an ordinary amount of interest.

There is no change of importance in the appearance of the Stock Markets. A general disposition is shown to abstain from dealing as much as possible, and the movements, except in the American Railroad market, are slight. Consols are the turn harder, "Goschens" showing a recovery of ⅛. In the Home Railway market there is hardly anything doing, and the variations are not worth special attention. Foreign Government bonds, too, are dull and featureless, though the tone is weak. American Railroads have had another break in prices, in consequence of the absence of support from New York, where operators for the fall continue to have it much their own way. Norfolk and Western Preference shows a fall of 1¼ compared with yesterday's official closing quotation, but part of this took place in the "street" after hours last night. Louisville and Nashville, Lake Shore, New York Central, and Milwaukee and St. Paul all exhibit an appreciable decline. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks have been strengthened by the traffic, showing an increase on the combined system of £2,592. Mexican Railway issues are neglected, but some sales have been made of Spanish Copper Mining shares and Primitive Nitrate shares.

Letters of allotment have been posted to applicants for the 13,350 shares of £20 each of the Monte Video Waterworks Company (Limited) offered for subscription by the River Plate Trust Loan and Agency Company (Limited).

The following are the latest changes compared with last night's closing :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: North Eastern ¼. *Receded*: District ½, Caledonian, Metropolitan, and South Eastern Deferred ¼, Chatham Ordinary and North British Deferred ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Declined*: Costa Rica A 1½, the B ½, Uruguay ¼, French Four and a Half per Cents. ½, Egyptian State Domain ¼, the Unified and Daira ⅛, Peruvian 1870, Portuguese, Russian 1873, and Spanish Four per Cents. ⅛.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Fallen*: Louisville and Nashville 1⅜, Norfolk and Western Preference 1¼, New York Central, 1⅛, Union Pacific ⅞, Wabash Mortgage 1, the Preference ½, Denver Preference 1, the Ordinary ⅜, Central Pacific, Atlantic First and Northern Pacific Preference ¾, Lake Shore Milwaukee and Philadelphia and Reading shares ⅝ each, Erie shares ⅝, the Second Mortgage ¼, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, and Ontario shares ¼,

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher*: Grand Trunk First Preference ¼, the Third Preference and Guaranteed ⅛. *Lower*: Canadian Pacific ⅞.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: Suez Canal ¼. *Fallen*: Primitiva Nitrate ¼, Rio Tinto and De Beers ⅜, and Mason and Barry 3-16.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET opened quiet, with a moderate demand. Probable sales 10,000 bales. Prices on spot barely steady. Futures two points decline, with buyers.

A prospectus has been issued of the Calabak Copper Company (Limited), which is formed, with a capital of £200,000 in £1 shares, to acquire copper mines in Asia Minor. The property is nearly about 17 miles from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. The property is nearly about 17 miles from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. The property is nearly 2¼ miles long and about a mile wide, the principal mine being situate in the Magdul Mountain, 1,200 ft. above the sea. The price to be paid for the concession and mine has been fixed at £150,000, of which £83,333 will be paid in cash, and £66,667 in fully paid shares (or in cash at the option of the directors), being the largest number of shares allowed by the rules of the Stock Exchange to be allotted to vendors as part purchase money.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			
Consols	100¼	1	
New Consols (2¾)	96½	⅝	
Reduced 3 p. c.	99¼	100¼	
Local Loan Stock	102½	3	
New 2½ per Cent	93½	4	
India 3½ per Cent.	102⅛	6	
Do. 4½ p. c. Rs.	71		¼
Egyptian Guar.	99½	100¼	
Met. B't. Wks. 3½	111¼	12¼	
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	101½	2⅛	
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	171¼		¾
Liverpool	110½	11	
FOREIGN STOCKS.			
Argentine 6 p. c.	100	2	
Do. Hard Dols.	63	9	xd
Do. Treasury	90	2	
Austrian Gold	89	91	
Do. Silver	68	70	
Brazilian 1875	102½	3⅛	
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	99	101	
Do. Cedulas I.	60¼		¼xd
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1883	101	3	
Costa Rica A.	89½	90½	
Do. B.	89¼	90½	
Egypt. State Dom.	102		½
Do. Unified	80⅛		⅛
Do. Preference	100¼		½
Do. Daira Sanieh	76⅜		⅜
French 3 p.c. Rnts	81¼	2½	
Do. 4½ p c. Rnts	102¼	3¼	xd
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	82		¼
Hung. Gold Rents	83¼	4	
Italian	95⅛		¼
Mexican Converted	39½		¾
Peruvian 5 p.c. '72	15 3	16 5	16
Do 6p.c.	17 1-16	3-16	
Portuguese	64		¼
Russian 1873	102⅜	1⅝	
Spanish 4 p.c.	72⅛	⅝	
Turkish 1854	99	101	
Group 1	20¼		⅛
Group 2	15⅜		⅛
Group 4	15⅝		¼
4½ p. c. 1871	87		½
5p. c. Defence	92¼	3¼	
5p. c. Priority	81	3	
Uruguay Unified	72½	3	
Virginia Funded	39	41	
U.S. 4½ p.c.	109	10	xd
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			
Caledonian	110¼		½
Great Eastern	67½		¾
Great Northern	115½	16	½
Ditto A	99½	100	½
Great Western	149⅜		⅞
Hull and Barnsley	33¼	4	¼
Lanc. and York.	110	17	
Brighton (Ordinary)	142	4	
Brighton A	123¼	9	
Chatham (Ordinary)	22⅜		⅛
Do. Preference	101½	2	
North Western	167⅝		⅞
South Western	138⅛	9	¼
Manchester & Shef.	67	9	
Do. A.	34⅜		⅜
Met. Consolidated	75½	6	
Do. Land Stock	69½	70	½
Do. District	32½	3	
Midland	132⅛		⅞
North British Pref	73⅞	4	⅛
Do. Def.	50¼	1	
North Eastern	156⅜		⅝
North Stafford	111	19	
South Eastern	132	4	
Do. Deferred	107⅛		⅜
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.			
Canada Pacific	53		¼
Cen. Pacific Share	34⅛		⅛
Chic. Mil. and St. Paul	64⅞	5	⅛
Denver & R. Grande	16⅛		⅝
Do. Pref.	41		½
Illinois Shares	118	19	
Lake Shore	101		¼
Ohio & Mississipp	22		½
Louis. and Nash.	55⅞	6	⅛
Mex. Cen. Bonds	66		⅛
Miss. Kan. & Texas	13⅛	14	
N. Y. Cen. Shares	109¼		¾
New York Ontario	15		¼
Erie Shares	23⅛		¾
Do. Sec. Mort.	90		⅛ xd
Norfolk & West. Pref	43⅞	9	⅛
N.Y.P. & O. 1st M	37¼	8	
North. Pacific Pref	60¼		¾
Pennsylvania Sh.	53⅞		4⅛ xd
Phil. and Read. Sh.	21		¼
Union Pacific Shares	64½		¾
Wabash Preferred	25¼		¾
Do. Gen. Mort.	39	40	
Grand Trunk Ord.	10¾		⅝
Do. First Pref.	65⅞		6⅞
Do. Second Pref	45¼		¾
Do. Third Pref.	25½		¾
Do. Guaranteed	69½	70	xd
Mexican Ordinary	45¾	6	xd
Do First Pref	115¼		¼ xd
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	73¼		¾ xd
Lombardo-Venetian	8⅜		¾
Varna 3 per cent.	7⅛		⅜
Nitrate Railway	23¼	9	
BANKS.			
Alliance Bank	133	14	¼
City Bank	206	1	½
Consolidated Bank	8		½
Imperial Ottoman	107	11	
London and County	85½	6	½
Union of London	40	1	
London and West.	66½	7	¼
London Joint Stock	39	40	
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	42½	3	¼
Stand. Bnk. S. Africa	48½	9	½
MINES			
Indian Consolidated	¾		5-16
Mysore shares	3¼		⅝
Ooregums	1½		⅝
Cape Copper	6⅛		⅜
Namaqua	4		¼ xd
Mason and Barry	10⅞	11	⅛
Rio Tinto	25⅛		¼ xd
Montana £1 shares	1⅛	2	
De Beers new shares	15¼		½
S. African Explor	17⅛		⅛
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES			
Anglo-American	45	7	
Do. Pref.	77	8	
Brazilian Submarine	13⅛		⅛ xd
Direct Unit. States	9⅜		⅛
Eastern	12⅛		⅝
Ditto Extension	13⅛		⅛
United Telephone	13¼	14	¼
Globe Teleg. Trust	6⅞	7	⅛
TRAMWAYS, ETC.			
London Gen. Om.	190	200	
London Street	13⅝	14	½
London Tramway	13	14	
North Metropolitan	17½	18	½
WATERWORKS.			
Chelsea Waterworks	260	5	
East London	197	202	
Grand Junction	123	7	
Kent	270	5	
Lambeth	255	60	
New River, New	347	52	
Sthwrk & Vauxhal	173	7	
W. Middlesex	267	72	
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.			
Gaslight & Coke A	250	4	
Imp. Continental	205	8	xd
South Metropolitan	297	302	
Brush Elec Lt (£4 pd)	3¼	4¼	
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Allsopp	7⅜	8½	
Guinness and Co.	307½	12½	
Hotchkiss	10⅜		⅝
Bryant and May	12⅜	13½	
Spratt's Patent	9⅞	10⅛	
Liverpool Nitrate	30	2	
Primitiva Nitrate	37⅝	8	
Salt Union Shares	4⅛		⅝ pm
P. and O. Steam	65	7	
Royal Mail Steam	61	4	
Nat. Discount Co.	11		½
Hudson's Bay	18⅞	19¼	
Suez Canal	85¼	8½	
E. & W. Ind. Dock	23	5	
London and St. K.	39	41	

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

DESPERATE FIGHTING IN SAMOA.

SYDNEY, Nov. 22.—The *Lubeck*, which has arrived here from Samoa, reports that heavy fighting has occurred in the island between the followers of King Mataafa and King Tamasese. The adherents of the former attacked on the 7th inst. the stronghold erected by the Tamasese party at Atna. The fighting lasted all that day, and on the following day the attacking party succeeded in carrying some of the minor defences, but lost heavily in repulsing the frequent sorties made by the beleaguered: further fighting was expected.

THE YELLOW FEVER IN THE CANARIES.

PARIS, Nov. 22.—A despatch from Buenos Ayres states that in consequence of the yellow fever outbreak in the Canary Islands vessels arriving from that group at Buenos Ayres or Monte Video will not be admitted to free pratique until after undergoing two days' quarantine.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN A PARIS THEATRE.

PARIS, Nov. 21.—During the performance at the Lyrique Theatre this evening of the play entitled "Si j'étais Roi," a portion of a chandelier fell upon the head of a young engineer named Obrech, who was seated in the stalls, smashing in his skull. He was immediately conveyed to the St. Louis Hospital, where he expired. The performance was continued by desire of the audience.

SERIOUS DISTURBANCES IN ALSACE.

It is reported in Paris that the inhabitants of Alsace and Lorraine are not only restive, but that preparations are being made to repress any possible insurrection. As the lost provinces are shut out from communication with France, writes the *Daily News* correspondent, it is very hard to ascertain whether the reports we hear are, or are not, exaggerated. Advices from Bâle state that disturbances have broken out at Colmar, Thunn, and Mulhouse, and that the Alsatian recruits on their way to the depots attacked their military escorts and broke away from them. Two hundred of these youths are said to have taken refuge in Switzerland. A Prussian officer was wounded, and wholesale arrests have been made in the localities to which they belonged.

FORGERY TRIAL IN BELGIUM.

There appeared yesterday before the Correctional Court at Brussels a man named Duplessy, who, it may be remembered, writes the *Daily News* correspondent, was accused of having issued false Bank of France notes of 500 f. The prisoner was poor when he came to Brussels, and soon became rich. He acquired property belonging to the town to the value of some millions of francs. There are six witnesses from London. The first sitting was taken up with the depositions of the *juge d'instruction*.

A MIDNIGHT TRAGEDY IN AN AMERICAN HOTEL.

A tragedy at the Paxton House Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska, has created a most painful sensation in the United States. Henry W. King is a member of a wealthy and highly respected family at Chicago. He went to Omaha to represent his father's business firm, and introduced at the Paxton House as his wife a singularly handsome and attractive young woman. Shortly afterwards there arrived another lady, showily dressed and of attractive manners, who entered her name in the hotel book as Mrs. Henry W. King. At midnight she went to King's rooms and announced herself somewhat noisily. Mr. King, not desiring the two women to meet, went out into the passage to speak with the new-comer. She flung her arms about his neck; he repulsed her, she drew a revolver and fired at him. He fled; she followed; he stumbled on reaching the staircase, whereupon, taking deliberate aim, she fired three times. King had clung to the bannister to prevent himself from falling. At the third shot his hold relaxed, and he fell backwards down the stairway, shot through the heart. The woman flung herself upon the body, exclaiming, "I have killed my husband," and was immediately arrested. It appears that the first lady mentioned in this terrible business was King's wife. The other, who killed him, is a Mrs. Beecher, of Chicago, with whom he had lived previous to his marriage to Miss Duffy, of St. Louis.

A RING FOR THE POTTERIES.

A news agency says that a ring has been formed in connection with the pottery industry in general and the manufacturers of china in particular which cannot fail to have an important effect on the North Staffordshire trade. For some time china manufacturers have complained of the low prices at which their goods have been sold, and efforts have been made, without substantial result, to form a China Manufacturers' Association, with a view to raising prices. Failing in this, certain leaders of the movement formed a resolution to call in the aid of financiers in order to purchase all the available supplies of bone ash and calcined bone. This has been done with such effect that the prices of these articles, so largely used in the manufacture of china, have advanced fully 50 per cent., to the consternation of those manufacturers who have not joined in the movement. If success continues to attend the operations of the ring, the prices of English china goods will of course be materially increased, and the smaller firms will no longer be able to compete.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The traffic receipts of the undermentioned companies for the week ended Nov. 18, compared with the corresponding week last year, are as follows:—

RAILWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Brighton	£2,042	—
Caledonian	3,603	—
Eastern and Mid.	133	—
Great Eastern	1,146	—
Great Northern	2,760	—
Great Western	1,590	—
Lanc. and Yorkshire	1,012	—
Manc. and Sheffield	—	£679
Metropolitan	911	—
Metropolitn. District	55	—
Midland	3,089	—
North British	4,130	—
North Eastern	9,134	—
North Stafford	706	—
North Western	5,582	—
South Eastern	2,151	—
South Western	1,363	—
Tilbury	152	—

TRAMWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Belfast	£337	—
Bordeaux Tr. & Om.	24	—
Dublin	121	—
Edinburgh	197	—
Germany	112	—
Glasgow Tr. & Om.	596	—
Gothenburg	3	—
Hull Street	3	—
Imperial	40	—
London	555	—
London Street	336	—
London Southern	43	—
North Metropolitan	930	—
Provincial	809	—
Sheffield	118	—
Southampton	34	—
South London	135	—
Sunderland	52	—
Swansea, &c.	38	—
Wolverhampton	26	—

A NAPHTHA VESSEL BLOWN UP.

THREE MEN KILLED.

As already reported a disastrous and fatal explosion occurred in the Bathurst Basin in Bristol Harbour yesterday on board the Jersey ketch the *United*, loaded with 300 barrels of highly volatile naphtha, consigned from the port to a London broker. The vessel was to have left the port in three hours, and her captain and crew were on board. She was flying the red danger flag, and fortunately no vessels were close to her at the time. A policeman was watching her within two yards of the quay, when with a terrific report her whole cargo exploded just as the officer had been speaking to the captain and three men on deck. The policeman was felled by a huge piece of timber from the vessel's side, and when he got up he saw the whole vessel in one mass of flames. The deck was gone, and the flames were leaping to a height of 60 ft. The fine building of the General Hospital, beneath which the vessel was lying, had every window on the basin frontage shattered. There was quite a panic among the patients, and the hospital itself was in imminent danger at one time. Fortunately the wind veered more west, and the hospital escaped, as did also a linseed and cotton oil store, in which were many tons of oil. By the efforts of the dockmen, police, and fire brigade, the shipping and buildings adjoining were saved, but nothing could extinguish the flames, and the fire simply burnt itself out. An able seaman, Edward Menier, was blown into the water, where, with a compound fracture of the leg, he was struggling half dazed when rescued. The captain, Henry Cartwright, the mate, Joseph Cartwright, and the boy Devereux, who at the moment of the explosion was playing a concertina in the forecastle, must have been killed instantaneously, and their bodies were found in the charred hull when the water was withdrawn from the basin later in the afternoon. The deceased men belonged to Jersey.

HUNTING ACCIDENT.—Mr. Henry Young met with a deplorable accident yesterday while hunting with the Essex staghounds in the neighbourhood of Bishop's Stortford. In attempting an awkward fence Mr. Young's horse stumbled and went under, while another horse, in jumping, struck him. He was conveyed home suffering terrible agony. There is no hope of his recovery, one of his jaws having been driven into the brain.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers relieved in the first week of the current month was 97,581, of whom 58,834 were indoor and 38,747 outdoor paupers. The total number relieved shows an increase of 981 over the corresponding week of last year, 5,878 over 1886, and 6,806 over 1885. The total number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 1,212, of whom 1,022 were men, 170 women, and 20 children under sixteen.

SALE OF THE FITTINGS OF THE "GREAT EASTERN."—Yesterday a sale of the hull and fittings of the steamer *Great Eastern* realized over £43,000, the copper bringing £2,960, the gun metal, &c., £4,480, brass £3,980, lead £4,185, outer iron-plates £12,500, inner iron-plates, beams, and rivets £12,230, and anchors about £300. The breaking up of the steamer will commence on January 1, will occupy a year, and will probably cost in labour from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per ton of material.

DARING ROBBERY AT SEA.—On the arrival of the Orient Company's steamer *Orizaba* in Plymouth Sound yesterday, it was reported that, upon nearing Naples on the voyage home from Australia, two drafts on the London and County Bank for £1,500, in addition to gold and notes, belonging to a Mr. M'Culloch, had been abstracted from a leather bag kept in his cabin. Detectives from Scotland-yard and Plymouth who went on board were unable to find any trace of the thief.

VOLUNTEERS AND MOBILIZATION.—It has been decided at the War Office that during the next financial year no increase in the establishment of volunteer corps shall be sanctioned, except in districts where the number of men locally required under the Home Defence Mobilization Scheme has not reached the full quota. Any spare funds that may be available from the volunteer votes in the Army Estimates are to be devoted to improvement in the training and equipment of the force.

PHILANTHROPY AND FRAUD.—A woman known as Miss Coe, who is now Mrs. Bliss, and who had been engaged in many philanthropic works at the East-end under Mrs. Leonard Courtney, was convicted yesterday at the Worship-street police-court of fraud. She had induced the wife of the caretaker at some model buildings in Whitechapel, and the woman's sister, to let her have two legacies, amounting to £350, to invest for them. The prisoner appropriated the money to her own use. She pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

A SURVIVOR OF THE RETREAT FROM MOSCOW.—Waterloo veterans are still to be found in France, but it is doubtful if there are alive at the present moment many old campaigners who returned from Moscow under Murat, in the disastrous retreat of the Grand Army in November, 1812. One of those warriors, at least, lives in Bordeaux, and he will be 108 years old on December 4 next—that is to say, on the seventy-sixth anniversary, or thereabouts, of the day when Napoleon issued his famous Twenty-ninth Bulletin at Malodeczno, and when, leaving the command of the army to the King of Naples, he set out for Paris. This veteran, who is of Polish origin—by name Zalenski—lives at No. 4, Rue Lecoq, Bordeaux, and is in receipt from the State of a magnificent pension of forty francs a month.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

NORTHAMPTON TO THE FORE.

BY A SPECTATOR.

HAVING spent an afternoon with Lord Ashbourne's Act, we have found it no whit livelier than our more postprandial experience led us to expect. Yesterday's debate was only in point of attendance—and in that but for part of the time—distinguishable from an ordinary Wednesday sitting.

It would be interesting, and to the electors of Northampton also gratifying, to have a return of the part played during the Session, in the deliberations of Imperial Parliament by that town, as represented by its ingenious and energetic members. There are not many questions either of home or foreign policy upon which both Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Bradlaugh fail to say their say: and there are few occasions when either of them speaks without securing a very fairly attentive hearing. On this occasion Mr. Madden, having formally moved the second reading of the Land Purchase Bill in place of his still absent colleague, a motion for its rejection was made by the senior and seconded by the junior member for Northampton. Mr. Labouchere, as is well known, speaks on the subject of Irish Land Purchase with no uncertain voice. He disliked the idea when Mr. Gladstone was responsible for it: he will have none of it now. He regards it as the superfluous buying out of a moribund vested interest with taxpayers' money. He objected to the haste with which the measure was being rushed through. He objected to the principle of an Imperial guarantee. He entirely distrusted the security; and he stigmatized the proposal as involving a gigantic system of absenteeism. The time for compromise was past. The landlords had let it slip; and he moved the rejection of the bill.

BISMARCKS OF THE TREASURY BENCH.

Mr. Bradlaugh laid stress on the evasive nature of the proposal. But he warned the Government that they were only laying up more trouble for the future. There were many claims and murmurings now in their ears against which it would be difficult to tie the purse-strings of the State after the dangerous example of this concession to Irish landlords of aid from the earnings of "Lancashire lads" and Northumbrian miners. Why should not charity begin at home—say in Hyde Park? The men on the Treasury Bench (observed Mr. Bradlaugh with a scornful glance along it) were not Bismarcks, and might not find themselves able, after bowing to this among other winds, to oppose a Bismarckian sternness against further, and perhaps more just, encroachments.

Mr. Howorth defined his position in voting for the bill—it was only as a way out of an *impasse*. He also insisted, as did later Sir G. Trevelyan, on the need for some selection among bad and good tenants if the State were to step into landlords' shoes with safety. The rest of Sir George Trevelyan's speech was mainly an exposure, given with his usual deliberate clearness, of the extravagant claims of the landlords' convention, which led Mr. Brodrick (at this time the chief Bismarck on the Treasury bench) to disclaim, amid some laughter from the Radicals and Irish, any influences on the Government from such a quarter. Other defenders—not on any new lines—of the bill were Colonel Waring and Mr. Addison, Q.C., who was brought up by an awkward resurrection of former pronouncements on the question. The Coercionists believe they have a monopoly of this weapon, and their feelings when it is turned against themselves are those of Pyrrhus when his elephants wheeled upon his own army.

We may look for more interest to-day: Mr. Parnell adjourned the debate.

THE PROBLEM OF A PORTRAIT.

A STUDY IN THE RENAISSANCE. BY MR. H. SCHÜTZ WILSON.

IN our magnificent collection of paintings in Trafalgar-square, No. 674 is a "Portrait of a Lady," by Paris Bordone. The catalogue indicates that the person depicted is a young lady of the house of Brignole, in Genoa, and it is stated that her age is about eighteen. Bordone was born, 1500, in Treviso, and died, 1576, in Venice. He was Court painter to Francis I., and painted many fair ladies of that land and time. He is excellent in portraying beauty, splendour, and character.

Let us look a little at No. 674. It surely represents a woman older than eighteen. There is more in the face than the petty, private love intrigues that could lead a depraved young Italian girl of the Renaissance to the use of the dagger and the bowl. The face is that of a woman, still young, but full of statecraft; is a type of the highly placed, political and politic woman of the Renaissance; and expresses lust in place of love, craft in place of morality, superstition in place of religion. Handsome, healthy, happy, desperately wicked, without conscience, truth, or ruth, is the terrible face which Bordone has depicted so admirably. Note the sidelong glance of the baleful eyes, long used to contemplate crime; note the firm, compressed, beautiful lips, which could kiss a lover that she had doomed to death, and you will feel that this woman is not a merely unknown Italian lady. The painter, probably with some sinister inflection of meaning, has robed her in a blood-red dress. She is highly accomplished, shrewdly able, and possesses strange witchery of manner. She has, in a high degree, sexual glamour and charm, but she is capable of adultery, of murder, of even worse, if worse may be. She is one of the women of the Renaissance who, like Mary Stuart or Marguerite de Valois, could entertain a lover, and then suffer him to be killed, if treacherous policy required that the unhappy gallant should be sacrificed to their interest and reputation. It seems to me, in short, to be open to the gravest doubt whether the original of Bordone's masterly portrait could be a mere ordinary girl of eighteen.

It is well known that many portraits of about this time have, in the confusions of later years, become ascribed to wrong originals. Where, for instance, is Paolo Veronese's portrait of Sir Philip Sydney? It is probable that many of us may have seen it in one of the galleries of Italy, but seen it bearing another name and ascribed to another original. My hypothesis is that No. 674 represents guileful Bianca Cappello—the *pessima Bianca*. Even if not an actual portrait, it would at least be a singularly true and a striking representation of that wicked, lovely Duchess. She was pre-eminent in sumptuous, voluptuous loveliness, as she was in the crime of her day in Italy. She was born (in Venice) 1542, married 1579, and died in 1587. The Court painter of Francis I. might well have travelled to Florence to paint her; and her reputation, or notoriety, was great in the Venice in which she was born. Internal evidence points strongly to the correctness of my present hypothesis. The portrait answers to the descriptions and to the characteristics of the lovely, dangerous Bianca. I hope in another place soon to tell the story of Bianca's adventurous life. Bordone has depicted a woman accustomed to rule and sway. A striking instance of the way in which women of the Renaissance—even if they lived a little later than the actual period—treated lovers is found in the case of that vile woman, Mdlle. Lescombat, of Paris. She had a crowd of "lovers" of the ordinary sensual, brutish type; but amongst her admirers was one who, if frail, was noble. When a wanton has infatuated such a man, he will probably, figuratively speaking, be ground to powder; or, as actually happened to Mongeôt, be broken on the wheel. It was the woman who incited Mongeôt to crime, and prepared for him the path of evil. It was for love of her that he sinned. He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to be broken on the wheel. An incriminating word from him denouncing the true culprit would have saved his life; but that word the love-loyal gallant would not speak. He suffered in the Place de Grève, and the heartless harlot who had worked his ruin occupied a good position near the scaffold. She smiled at his tortures. He was very fair and pale, and utterly silent—except with his speaking eyes. In his agony a flush spread over his face. "Il ne fallait pas moins que cela pour faire rougir Mongeôt!" said his paramour. He heard, but died mutely, and made no sign.

I hope that my present attempt may excite historical and art critics to consider whether Bordone's wonderful portrait (No. 674) may not really represent Bianca Cappello. Bordone was, for a time, a pupil of Titian. In the deadly calm of the almost inscrutable lineaments of this remarkable portrait, in which charm and grace are shown behind so much that is terrible, so much that is earthly, sensual, devilish, in those awful eyes, and in that cruel "red mouth, like a venomous flower," we see, as I fancy, not an obscure girl of a noble family of Genoa, but the counterfeit presentment of the romantically wicked Renaissance heroine, the fair and evil Grand Duchess of Tuscany.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.—III.

A BOOK FOR BABES.

"The Rosebud Annual" (J. Clarke and Co. 4*s.*), full of stories, verses, and pictures, for tiny children. A few of the pictures are pretty, but, as a rule, they are not up to the standard which is nowadays expected. There is no reason why even babies should not imbibe correct views on anatomy, which they surely will not do from the drawing on page 96 and many others.

FOR A SUNDAY SCHOOL PRIZE.

"Ready, aye, Ready." By Agnes Giberne. (Nisbet and Co.) A somewhat namby-pamby tale of cottage life, designed to show the charms of thrift and cleanliness; a good Sunday school prize.

FOR LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS.

"Deb and the Duchess." By L. T. Meade. (Hatchards.) Two independent infants running away and being entrapped by an adventurer, who takes them to London to be the plaything of an Indian girl, the "Duchess," are the hero and heroine of this lively story. The runaways are eventually restored to the bosom of their families, but not before they have furnished the material to what in the nursery will be considered a wonderful book. Seven pretty illustrations are added by M. E. Edwards.

"Children's Evergreens" (John Hogg) is a very good selection of fifteen favourite fairy tales, comprising several of the "Arabian Nights" stories and some of the most thrilling of the Western tales known and prized in every nursery. The illustrations, with heads of giants and monsters abounding, are in themselves enough to excite the imagination of any child.

"A Loving Story," by A. W. Wright (John Hogg), tells of a small girl whose literary aspirations landed her into all kinds of troubles with her illiterate brothers and sisters. It is brightly told, and will please little girls and boys.

FOR CHILDREN OF TEN.

"A King and not a King." By M. Spring Rice. (Swan Sonnenschein and Co.) A certain gift of imagination and a sweet elevation of thought raise this tale above the dull dead level of children's Christmas books. It is crude, immature—from every sign the work of a novice; and this makes the more surprising a breadth of treatment and a simplicity of style which are seldom the qualities of a beginner. There is a fine disregard of time and place. We are not even told until the last pages the name of the boy-King Gabriel's kingdom; and though there is a general mediæval air about the scene, the author avoids any awkward questions as to accuracy by utterly ignoring such minor details as century or country. But the fact remains that the life of the unconscious young usurper, the contrasted characters of his boy pages and playfellows, the purely imaginary and absurd regal state which surrounds him, and the exciting events which lead up to his touching death, are all described with a simple directness which is very winning. The story is a charming one for children about ten. The illustrations are very bad, but fortunately few in number.

The popularity of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA is rapidly increasing, and where once tried its delicious flavour and agreeable qualities secure for it a permanent place in the household dietary. Highly recommended, by many eminent physicians, for young children and delicate persons to whom tea is injurious. To secure this article ask for FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA.

SIR MORELL MACKENZIE writes about the Soden Mineral Pastilles:—"I regard them as extremely valuable in obstinate Catarrhal Affections of the Throat. They are especially beneficial to Catarrhal Diseases of the Air Passages. I frequently found them of great service in the cases of singers and public speakers." Acknowledged by the Medical Profession the best remedy for Throat Irritation, Coughs, Bronchitis, and Asthma. Of all Chemists, 1*s.*, 1½*d.*, or 15 stamps, from 10, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

THE PROPOSED PACIFIC CABLE.

THE proposal made by the Pacific Telegraph Company to lay a cable from Canada to Australia has called forth a lengthy circular from the Eastern Extension Company, in which they point out that in 1871 they established communication with Australia without any subsidy, and that afterwards, in order to provide against the interruptions inseparable from a single line of cables, the colonies of Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia agreed to give the company a subsidy of £32,400 per annum for twenty years to enable it to duplicate the cables between India and Port Darwin. During the past few months the communication has been thrice interrupted, owing to exceptional circumstances, but the total interruptions since the communication was duplicated in 1880 have aggregated only 41 days. In order, however, to further strengthen the system, the company about to lay a third cable from Java to Australia, and it claims that as the pioneer of telegraphic communication with Australasia, it is entitled to consideration at the hands of the colonies. As to the proposal of their competitors, they ask, "Are the public prepared to find the necessary money for a Pacific line? If so, they must make up their minds to an expenditure of nearly four millions sterling for a duplicated service. This large expenditure, however, is in no way justified by the existing traffic, which only gives a moderate return upon the capital already invested, and consequently, the additional outlay would prove altogether unremunerative. The proposal made by the Pacific Telegraph Company that Government traffic should be guaranteed to the amount of £75,000 per annum for twenty-five years is not so favourable to the colonies as it would at first sight appear, as the whole of the traffic at present exchanged by the Imperial and Australasian Governments represents less than £16,000 per annum, and consequently the Governments would have to increase their expenditure by about £60,000 per annum to make up the amount of guarantee." If the colonies are desirous to have cheap tariffs, the Eastern Extension Company are prepared, as they have already offered, to fix the tariff at any level, provided the company is guaranteed three-fourths of their present earnings, the company accepting the remaining one-fourth of the guarantee risk.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC ACTION IN PARIS AND LONDON.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—While I rejoice that our comrades in Paris should receive commendation from you for the admirable work they are doing on the Municipal Council, you will perhaps allow me to point out that your remarks on London Socialists contained in your Occasional Note on the Parisian Communal Bakeries are strangely out of place at the present time. There are at this moment no fewer than eight Social-Democratic candidates for the London School Board, several of whom, there is every reason to believe, will be elected. The intention also is to run a Social-Democratic candidate for the new County Council in every district where even a few hundred votes can be polled. What more could we do? I regret to say, however, that those who are so ready with their advice and so anxious that we should be "moderate" are giving us no help whatever either in money or personal work in our Constitutional action. If we had manhood suffrage, as in Paris, we should give a very good account of ourselves, notwithstanding the contemptuous and even hostile attitude of our counsellors to "moderation." In any case, when account is taken of the great difficulties Socialists have to encounter, I think they might look for something better than sneers from the *Pall Mall Gazette* when they are soberly trying to obtain some sort of recognition of the wants of the people.—Your obedient servant,

H. M. HYNDMAN.

November 20.

THE WHITECHAPEL BULLIES.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I trust you will allow me, now that public attention is again aroused by another Whitechapel horror, to say I hope something will be done to reach those who are second only in criminality to the murderer himself—namely, the class of infamous scoundrels who are commonly known as "bullies." These are the wretches who live on the earnings of these poor creatures, and who, in the midst of all this terror, have driven them out to their awful doom that they may eat the bread of idleness and sink themselves still deeper with drink. Only a little while ago a young girl only fifteen years of age came to us for protection from one of these fellows, and after we had placed her in charge of the matron of our "Home" for fallen girls she informed us that she had been decoyed into a house of ill-fame, and they threatened (with an uplifted knife over her head) to murder her if she dared to try and escape. Now, I was only able to get this man and his wife six months' hard labour each on another indictment—namely, for harbouring a girl under sixteen years of age for immoral purposes, as they were the keepers of the house. Happily the law does now reach those who keep the houses, but I do hope, before these horrors are forgotten as a nine days' wonder, some member of Parliament will be led to press a short Act of Parliament to be passed as an addition to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, so that these scoundrels may be reached, as at present the police are utterly powerless, although these fellows are as well known as the public-houses at the corners of which they are continually loafing and looking out for fresh victims to entrap, and where they may be seen at all hours of the day, and, if questioned, will pretend to be labourers out of work. Hoping that we shall at least have this one reform in our law, though others are also greatly needed,—I am, yours obediently,

FREDK. N. CHARRINGTON.

Great Assembly Hall, Mile End-road, E.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30, THE ARMADA.

SATURDAY NEXT, at 1.30.

Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhaem, B. Robins, F. Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, U. Winter, Fitz Davis W. S Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

LAST NINE NIGHTS of Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD'S SEASON.

EVERY EVENING, at 8.45, PRINCE KARL. Preceded at 8 by ALWAYS INTENDED. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

PRINCE KARL will be TRANSFERRED to the GLOBE THEATRE, SATURDAY, Dec. 22.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINÉE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 213th Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gilmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Kate Rorke, Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, K. McNeill, Bowman, Adlercron, Maunders, G. Arnold, &c. MATINEE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, SATURDAY NEXT, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK 111th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

The safest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 250th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GAIETY THEATRE.

THIS EVENING, at 7.40, LOT 49, and at 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lillian Price, Miss E. Broughton, Miss M Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. C. Maude, Mr. W. Lonnen, and Mr. George Stone.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, THE MONK'S ROOM. 50th Time. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, Marion Lea, E. H. Brooke, Morland, De Solla, &c. At 8, THAT TELEGRAM. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, November 24, at 2.30.

STRAND THEATRE.

(Under the management of Mr. C. H. HAWTREY,

By arrangement with Mr. WILLIE EDOUIN.)

TO-NIGHT will be performed, a Burlesque in Three Acts, entitled ATALANTA, at 9 o'clock. Mr. F. Wyatt, Mr. T. Squire, Mr. Fleming Norton, Mr. Rudolph Lewis, Mr. F. Wensley, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey; Miss Alma Stanley, Miss Carlotta Zerbini, Miss Florence Lancaster, Miss Mary Glover, Miss G. Baring, Miss Nellie Bennett, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss S. Baring, and Miss Marie Linden. Preceded, at Eight o'clock, by A HIGHLAND LEGACY. Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Percy Lyndal, Mr. A. Belmore, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Grahame Wentworth, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Zerbini. Box-office open from Ten to Five.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. JOHN HARE), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. 56th Performance. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. SPECIAL MATINEES of MAMMA SATURDAYS, Dec. 1 and 15, at 3.

OPERA COMIQUE.

(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the successful Comic Opera, CARINA. Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Wilmas, Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely, G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. At 7.30, THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER. Doors open at 7.15. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. THIRD SPECIAL MATINEE of CARINA WEDNESDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Acting Manager, DOUGLAS COX.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE, Shaftesbury Avenue.

(Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, THE LADY OF LYONS. Miss Wallis, Mesdames Rebertha Erskine, H. Leigh, Lambelle; Messrs. Macklinson, Bassett Roe, Allen Thomas, Matthew Brodie, Charles Arnold, Arthur Fenwicke, Herbert Ising, George Seaton, &c., and Forbes Robertson. MATINEE of LADY OF LYONS SATURDAY, December 1, at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, CHASSAIGNE'S New Comic Opera NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Chorus and Orchestra of 100, conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded at 7.30 by QUITS. Doors open at 7.15; Box-office open daily from 10.30 to 5 o'clock. Early application is necessary to secure places. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2. Doors open at 1.30.—R. D'ALBERTSON, Acting Manager.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0. Box-office open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, Miss Scarlett, and Miss Vane Featherston. Preceded, at 8.10, by BARBARA. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock.—COMEDY THEATRE.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects; by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Sweetmeat Store; Electric Light. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

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THE STARVING RUSSIAN ARTISTES.

We are sorry to record that the entertainment at St. James's Hall yesterday afternoon, so generously organized by Mr. Ralston, was very poorly patronized. We have to acknowledge the receipt of the following further sums:—

Mrs. Nash	5s.	0d.
A Sympathizing Fellow Artiste	2	6

Mrs. Nash writes:—"I will send the same sum weekly. Others may follow my example."

THE WEST HIGHLAND RAILWAY.

Messrs. Durnford and Co., Westminster, the parliamentary agents for this undertaking, write:—"Why disturb Mr. Ruskin and his disciples? The intended railway will not pass 'through Glencoe' nor 'over the Blackmount,' and though 'tourist carrying' will be one of its objects the railway, which has the support of the landowners, will place Fort William and the Western Highlands in direct communication with the South, will assist in the development of the fishing industry along the coast and be a great boon to the inhabitants (crofters included) of the wide district which it will serve." A glance at the map will show the necessity for the line which has been laid out so as to avoid interference with the amenities of Loch Lomond (which it only approaches at its northern extremity), and the "other sublimities" to which you refer. No alternative scheme, having its route through Glencoe, is, so far as we are aware, in contemplation.

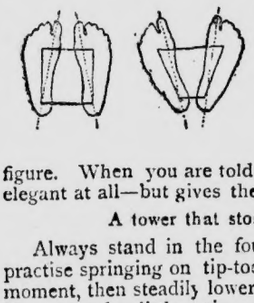
A TELLING TEETOTAL ARGUMENT.

A telling way of showing the advantages of teetotalism is given in the *Fleetwood Chronicle* of the 16th inst. It appears there are ninety-five public-houses in the borough, and on the supposition that on an average they took £5 per week each their total receipts would be £24,700 a year. That sum, if put in the right channels, would produce the following result:—

	£	s.	d.
1,000 families, ½-score flour weekly for 1 year, 1s. 1d.	2,816	13	4
1,000 families, 1 cwt. coal weekly for 1 year, 9d.	1,950	0	0
1,000 families, 1 score potatoes, weekly for one year, 8d.	1,733	6	8
1,000 families, 3 lb. butchers' meat weekly for one year, 2s. 6d.	6,500	0	0
1,000 families, 3 lb. bacon weekly, for one year, 2s.	5,200	0	0
Would supply 1,000 pairs blankets, 15s.	750	0	0
" " 1,000 pairs sheets, 5s.	250	0	0
" " 1,000 prs counterpanes, 7s. 6d.	375	0	0
" " 1,000 dress pieces, 12s. 6d.	625	0	0
" " 1,000 ladies' hats and bonnets, 7s. 6d.	375	0	0
Would supply 1,000 ladies' boots, 7s. 6d.	375	0	0
" " 1,000 suits men's clothing, 40s.	2,000	0	0
" " 1,000 men's boots, 10s.	500	0	0
" " 1,000 men's hats, 10s.	500	0	0
" " 50,000 magazines, 1d.	208	6	8
" " 50,000 children's mugs, ½d.	100	3	4
" " 50,000 daily papers, 1d.	208	6	8
" " 1,000 workmen's family Bibles, 2s.	100	0	0
" " Home and Foreign Missions	50	0	0
" " Relief of sick poor	50	0	0
" " Fruit and toys for sick children	89	3	4
	£24,700	0	0

"DARE TO STAND ERECT."

The custom of turning out the toes in standing and in walking, says Mr. T. S. Ellis in the last number of the *Nursing Record*, is absolutely incompatible with true grace in movement and with the maintenance of good feet in trying circumstances. The feet should be placed in line, so that four points, formed by the centre of the heel and of the tread in each foot, are equally distant. This is, for the arch, the strong position, and is indicated in the first figure of the diagram. The military position, "an angle of forty-five degrees," is represented in the second figure. When you are told that this latter is not only more elegant—it is not elegant at all—but gives the security of the tripod, remember the poet's words:



A tower that stood four-square to every wind that blew.

Always stand in the four-square position, and frequently, with bare feet, practise springing on tip-toe to extreme height: sustain that position for a moment, then steadily lower the heel to the floor, and repeat the movement. Never mind a little pain: that is due to unaccustomed movement, and will soon go. When the muscles become strong they will remain firm, so that the tendons or tie-rods, will be held, not strained, but, as the sailors say, "taut," at all times ready to respond on the slightest notice that action is required. You may soon acquire the instinctive habit of gently raising the heels as you stand. This is hardly noticeable in a man: in a woman it is entirely concealed by the dress.

We know that those who walk much, if they walk well, do not become flat-footed, while those who stand do. I am but advising that the agency which in good walking prevents this deformity, shall be utilized to prevent it in prolonged standing.

Walking, too, is necessary, not only in a nurse's work, but for recreation and exercise. Let this be done well. Point the toes downwards and forwards, never outwards; that is to say, keep to the four-square or strong position: spring sharply towards the tip-toe, straightening the knee. Learn, also, to hold the ground with the great toe at the beginning and at the end of each step. This is necessary for every one to do, but especially for those who sometimes walk on rough surfaces, at others on polished floors. We cannot grasp the ground: good foothold is only to be obtained by pressure of the toes against it.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL RECORD.

The republication of our record in a recent number of the *Pall Mall Budget* has called forth the following further letters:—

SIR,—May I call attention to an error in your list of schools? We have passed four boys this year at the London matriculation, but we are not in the list. One of our boys was fifteenth in honours; another had got

plucked from a school which figures as having passed over four, but after five weeks very hard work with us passed first class. The names of ours are—

A. Sully, fifteenth in honours, June, 1888.
Fawekner and Olver, first class, June, 1888.
Campion, first class, January, 1888.

—Yours faithfully, F. W. AVELING, Head Master.

Independent College, Taunton, Nov. 12.

SIR,—The twelfth successful candidate for the Indian Civil Service this year passed direct from this school, as the printed return shows. As this was the highest place, with one exception, taken from a school, we are unlucky to be omitted from your list of Thursday last (in the *Budget*). As we have passed three boys in the last four years we should stand very high on a comparative table, as we did on your list of open Balliol scholarships. That we are not selected for naming among the schools which passed two boys for the London matriculation matters less. It is rather hard on schools with statutory examining boards that so much should be made of the examination for "higher certificates"—a sort of "Smalls" writ large.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A. L. FRANCIS, Head Master.

Blundell's School, Tiverton, Nov. 12.

SIR,—The writer of the article on "The Public School Record," in your issue of November 8, has fallen into an error in the place which he assigns to this college in the London Matriculation Record. We are credited with only ten successes this year in these examinations, whereas as a matter of fact we had twenty-two successful candidates (three in January and nineteen in June) out of twenty-five presented. We are careful not to lay much stress on the London Matriculation Examinations, but your tabulated statement, unless corrected, fails to do this college justice. Probably the writer of the article was misled by the fact that the number of our male successful candidates was ten; but we make no difference between male and female students, and twelve women students of this college (an interesting fact in itself) were successful at the matriculation examinations of London University in January and June last.—Yours faithfully, W. CADWALADR DAVIES, Secretary and Registrar.

University College of North Wale, Bangor Nov. 13.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.]

TRAVEL.

BRADSHAW, JOHN. "New Zealand of To-day (1884-1887)." (London: Sampson Low.)
[A description of the country "as it is," with maps and statistical appendices. Pp. 402, cloth.]

PAYTON, E. W. "Round about New Zealand." (Chapman and Hall.)
[Another work on New Zealand "as it is"—illustrated. It is composed chiefly of "notes from a journal of three years' wanderings in the Antipodes." Pp. 368, cloth.]

WARDROP, OLIVER. "The Kingdom of Georgia." (Sampson Low.)
[The author describes his work as "notes of travel in a land of women, wine, and song." In the several appendices at the end of the book will be found historical, literary, and political sketches; specimens of the national music, and a compendious bibliography. Pp. 202, cloth. Price 14*s.*]

FICTION.

DAVIDSON, HUGH COLEMAN. "The Old Adam." (Sampson Low.)
["A Tale of an Army Crammer," in three volumes.]

HENDERSON, ISAAC. "Agatha Page." (Chatto and Windus.)
[A novel in two volumes.]

OSBORNE, DUFFIELD. "The Spell of Ashtaroth." (Sampson Low.)
[A story of the Hebrews in one volume. Pp. 234, cloth. Price 6*s.*]

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MISCELLANEA.

ASHTON, JOHN. "Men, Maidens, and Manners a Hundred Years ago." (Field and Tuer.)
[A chronicle, month by month, of the events of the year 1787. The thirty-four contemporary illustrations are the best part of the book, albeit they are somewhat small. Pp. 124, brown paper covers.]

CRANE, WALTER. "Flora's Feast: a Masque of Flowers." (Cassell and Co.)

"HAPPY THOUGHTS' BIRTHDAY BOOK." (Bradbury, Agnew, and Co.)
[What next? Detached sentences, selected and arranged from the pages of *Punch*, with "Dum Crambo" illustrations. Pp. 252, cloth, portrait of Mr. Burnand.]

MATTHEWS, BRANDER. "Pen and Ink." (Longmans, Green, and Co.)
[Reprinted magazine articles—the Antiquity of Jests, the Ethics of Plagiarism, the Preface, Frederick Locker, Austin Dobson, Poker Talk, &c., are among the subjects discoursed of by Mr. Matthews. Pp. 229. Price 6*s.*]

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

Arts and Crafts Exhibition—T. J. Cobden Sanderson on Bookbinding, New Art Gallery, 8.30.
Concerts—St. James's Hall Ballad Concert, 8; Royal Victoria Ballad Concert, 8; Herr Waldemar Meyer's Orchestral Concert, St. James's Hall, 8.
Society of Telegraph Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8.
Ragged School Union Meeting, Carisbrook Villa, Upper Tulse-hill, 3.
Prize Distribution at Birkbeck Institution, Chancery-lane, 7.
School Board Candidates at Whitfield's Tabernacle, 8.
West Islington Women's Liberal Association, Bingfield street School, 7.30.
Conversazione of Charterhouse Science and Art Institute, 7.30.
Thespis Club Entertainment, 8.
School Board Candidates at All Saints' Institute, New-cross, 8.
Lectures—Miss Ward on the "History of Education," Kensington High Schools for Girls, 3; A. Milnes on "Vaccination," North Islington Liberal Club, 8.30; Debate on Irish Affairs, South Kensington Liberal Club, 8.30; E. J. Morton on "Spectrum Analysis," Dulwich College, 8; Sir J. Bennett on "The Blue Coat School," City of London College, 8; W. Phillips on "Labour and Socialism," Communist Club, Tottenham-street, 8.30; R. Eve on "Fifty Years' Progress," Central Finsbury Radical Club, 8.30; P. W. Clayden on "Political Questions," North Camberwell Liberal Club, 8; Dr. Lyon on "School Board Education," Northampton House, Highbury, 8.30.

TO-MORROW.

Bazaar in Aid of Bethnal-green Congregational Church, Morley Hall.
Miss J. E. Harrison on "Monuments of Ancient Athens," South Kensington Museum, 5.15.
Parnell Commission.
Warehousemen, Clerks, and Drapers' Schools—Election. Guildhall Tavern.

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NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1836.
LONDON: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, Union-terrace.
INCOME AND FUNDS (1887)

Fire Premiums £607,000 | Life Premiums £197,000
Interest £113,000
Accumulated Funds £3,421,000

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19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,
AND
57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

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CAPITAL £200,000, IN 200,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

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In the event of no allotment being made, the amount of the subscriptions will be forthwith returned in full.

DIRECTORS.

WILLIAM HENRY QUIRK, Esq., Metal Merchant, 61, Gracechurch-st., London, E.C., and Liverpool.
THOMAS CRAVEN, Esq., Trinity, Edinburgh, and Belsize-park, London.
FRANK H. HENSMAN, Esq., Windsor, and Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire.
LIEUT.-GENERAL LOGAN, C.B., 28, Glen Eldon-road, Streatham, S.W.
HIS EXCELLENCY WOODS PASHA, Admiral of the Turkish Fleet, Constantinople.
*HENRY AITKEN, Esq., Chairman of the Cadzow Coal Company (Limited), Glasgow.
*Will join the Board after Allotment.

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SOLICITORS.—Messrs. HARVEY and CAPRON, 1, Clement's-inn, Strand, W.C.
BROKERS.—Messrs. LINDOW, KING, & CO., 8, Drapers'-gardens, & Stock Exchange, London, E.C.
AUDITORS.—Messrs. CHATTERIS, NICHOLS, and ATKINS, Chartered Accountants, 1, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C.
SECRETARY and OFFICES.—J. R. COOMBS, 14, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been incorporated for the purposes of acquiring as a going concern, and continuing to work, an important and highly valuable concession of Copper Mines named Calabak, in Asia Minor, about 17 miles from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

The principal Mine is situate in a mountain called "Magdal," 1,200 ft. above the sea, near the village of Calabak, ten miles from Edremid, a town of about 12,000 inhabitants, which is about seven miles from Aktchai, the shipping port of the district, where all imports of machinery and materials will be despatched to, and ores sent to market from, the Mines.

The extent of the property is nearly 2¾ miles in length, by almost a mile in width, and is the subject of a concession under an Imperial Firman of the Sultan of Turkey, dated June 29, 1885, for a period of ninety-nine years, upon the usual conditions of the payment of the ordinary taxes, about £10 per annum, and of a royalty of 5 per cent. of the net produce of the Mines.

This Property is situate in a very highly mineralized district, being not far distant from the celebrated Mines owned by the Greek Laurium Company, whence immense wealth is being obtained. The Copper ore, found in the Calabak Mine, is in the form of Purple Sulphides, green and blue Carbonates and Yellow Copper ore in enormous masses, and is contained within well-defined walls of Limestone and Granite. Such a formation is in the highest degree favourable for the existence of large deep-seated and persistent courses of ore; indeed, every characteristic of success may be said to exist in the Mine, not only on account of its Geological features, but from the very great quantity of ore already discovered and available for extraction.

The Mineral resources of the South Western part of Asia Minor are well known, and were celebrated in ancient times.

That this Mine has yielded to former workers an abundance of rich Copper ore is amply proved by the extensive underground excavations which have been discovered by the present proprietors, and by other unmistakable evidences in the neighbourhood. The whole of these works were, however, confined to the upper part of the mountain, from which the ancients only extracted the richer Copper ore, leaving standing large quantities of ore, which will now pay well to work.

Several levels have been driven into the mountain at different points about 300 feet from its summit. At an early period old excavations were encountered in various places, and it is the unanimous opinion of independent engineers, who, within the last three years, have made exhaustive examinations of the property, that tens of thousands of tons of ore are available for extraction from these old excavations alone.

For some time the present owners of this Mine have been exploring and opening it up below the ancient workings. The chief adit level has been driven about 34 fathoms into the hill, at which point a winze, or shaft, has been sunk in the deposit 13 fathoms, whence a drift has been extended north-east 34 fathoms into a body of Copper ore, without disclosing any old works below the original adit. At this point the lode is standing intact, and contains rich courses of ore, the ore body being over 30 yards wide. It is said by Mr. Tonkin, M.E., who visited the mine in September last, and whose report accompanies the Prospectus, that above this point a great mass of ore is laid open, exposing for immediate extraction yellow Copper ore, estimated by him at 100,000 tons, which will produce at least 20,000 tons of 12 per cent. marketable ore, worth at Swansea £9 12s. a ton, while the remaining 80,000 tons will leave a large profit by mechanical concentration, or by reducing it to a rich matt.

In addition to the works already enumerated, a level called "Good Hope" (88 metres—48 fathoms—deeper than the original adit) has been driven about 160 metres (nearly 88 fathoms) in order to cut the ore body that is seen descending from the drift before mentioned. Within the past month this has been successfully achieved, the miners having cut into the ore body, thus proving beyond doubt the strength and permanency in depth of a great rich masterly lode.

In anticipation of this event, Mr. Tonkin says: "Should the results be equal to that seen in the higher levels, which in all likelihood it will, reserves of several hundred thousand tons of copper ore will be laid open in the Mine and at once available for extraction." "The Mine is now being worked in good form with regard to the future, and the most expensive necessary exploratory works are in the course of and have been already executed."

Mr. Tonkin, writing at a later date than his report, says:—"I have made a careful assay of the average sample of best ore which I brought with me from Calabak, and the result is 19 per cent. of Metallic Copper. I find that a good deal of native Copper is associated with the Carbonates, and as the ancients seem to have dealt chiefly with the Carbonates and richer ores, they must have had a rich harvest in native or Metallic Copper also."

The situation of this Mine is admirably adapted for economical working, no winding and pumping machinery being required for many years, as the elevation of the mountain affords cheap and ready means of drainage, and of getting the ore to surface. At the foot of the hill an ample space is available for the erection of the requisite concentrating machinery, such as dressing floors and furnaces, as it may be deemed necessary to reduce the lower grade ores to a rich copper matt in the same manner as is done by the Rio Tinto and other large copper-producing companies. But the rich ore will in the meantime, till machinery is erected, go to market after simply hand-picking and crushing. The supply of water for dressing purposes is ample all the year round, and as a motive power for at least nine months of the year. Timber of the best description for mining purposes and as fuel can be obtained cheaply and easily at the mines in abundance. Miners and labourers can be readily procured in any numbers at very reasonable rates, common labourers getting about 1s. 6d. per day, and the means of transit of the ore to market are of the same satisfactory character.

The reports of two Mining Engineers accompany the Prospectus—i.e., by Mr. Benjamin Williams, M.E., dated October, 1886; and by Mr. Thomas Tonkin, M.E., dated October, 1888. The latter estimates that the great body of ore ready for extraction, at the date of his report, from the upper levels, on being hand-picked or dressed, is worth at Swansea, calculating the ore as only of 12 per cent. Copper ..... £9 12 0 a ton

Less—Raising and dressing	£2 0 0	
Carriage to Aktchai	8 0	
Freight to Swansea or Liverpool	15 0	
Royalty	7 6	
Home and sundry expenses	9 6	
		4 0 0
A profit of		£5 12 0 a ton

or, assuming that 12,000 tons only of ore be sold annually, a profit of £66,000 a year, which would be equivalent to 33 per cent. on the entire capital of the Company, but as the works are extended, and deeper levels driven, this profit should be considerably augmented.

The price to be paid for the concession and mine has been fixed at £150,000, of which £83,333 will be paid in cash, and £66,667 in fully paid shares (or in cash at the option of the directors), being the largest number of shares allowed by the rules of the Stock Exchange to be allotted to vendors as part purchase money. The working capital will, therefore, be £50,000, a sum largely in excess of the amount which the engineers state to be necessary for the full development of the mine and efficient conduct of the works.

The following contracts have been entered into, viz.: (1) a contract dated 1st October, 1888, made between Emil Reiser of the one part, and Alfred Long Jeffree of the other part; (2) a letter dated 12th November, 1888, from the said Alfred Long Jeffree to Henry Aitken; and (3) a contract dated 16th November, 1888, made between the said Alfred Long Jeffree of the one part and James Robert Coombs, as trustee on behalf of the Company, of the other part. The vendor has also entered into arrangements with various persons with reference to the payment of brokerage and other expenses incidental to the formation of the Company. As these may be held technically to constitute contracts within the purview of section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, applicants for shares shall be deemed to have waived the insertion of the dates and names of the parties to any such arrangements or contracts, and to accept the above statement as a sufficient compliance with that section, and applications for shares will only be accepted subject to this provision.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and of the Contracts above mentioned, may be inspected at the Offices of the Company's Solicitors.

An application for a Stock Exchange settlement and quotation will in due course be applied for.

Prospectuses, with Reports, and Forms of Application for Shares, may be obtained of the Bankers, Brokers, Solicitors, and Secretary, who will supply all further information, and submit Plans of the Property for inspection.

Dated 21st November, 1888.

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